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# Daily Report

# Near East & South Asia

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## Near East & South Asia

*FBIS-NES-92-103*

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*28 May 1992*

**NOTICE TO READERS:** An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

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## Israel

The IDF removed three trailers erected by settlers at the site where a rabbi was stabbed to death by an Arab teenager, Jerusalem International reported. The army razed the family home of the perpetrator in Dayr al-Balah refugee camp. In another development, authorities confiscated the publishing license of the East Jerusalem paper AL-FATA AL-'ARABI because of its alleged "extensive ties" with Fatah, Jerusalem radio reported. In a separate development, the AIDS virus is spreading in Israel at double the rate of 1991, HADASHOT disclosed. Seventy-seven new cases have been reported since the start of the year.

## Libya

The government "may amend" legislation forbidding extradition of its nationals in order to resolve its conflict with the West over the Lockerbie bombing, according to an AFP report citing a Libyan official.

## Iraq

The newly elected Kurdish National Council will hold its first session "next week," according to a report by Paris Radio Monte Carlo. A report by Voice of the Iraqi People quotes Mas'ud Barzani as saying that he does not recognize the results of last week's elections, and that the agreement between the DPK and the PUK is a "compromise."

## Palestinian Affairs

Nabil Sha'th, special adviser to Yasir 'Arafat, said a Palestinian transitional self-government will be announced on 1 November after the legislative elections on 1 Oct, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT reported. Sha'th said the PLO favors "a process that should begin with general elections for a Palestinian legislative council."

## Arab-Israeli Talks

### Israeli Delegate Addresses Lisbon Conference

*TA2705105392 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000 GMT 27 May 92*

[Excerpts] Even as the bloodshed continues here at home, Arab and Israeli delegates are meeting in Lisbon to discuss the future of the peace talks. The head of the Israeli delegation to the conference, Foreign Ministry Director General Yosef Hadas, addressed the gathering a short while ago and proposed expanding the multilateral talks and resuming the bilateral negotiations as soon as possible. David Ze'ev reports:

[Passage omitted] One of the issues in Lisbon is when to resume the talks. Hadas, in the prepared text for his address, calls for another round of the bilateral peace talks before the Israeli election. While we may have achieved a significant measure of progress, Hadas says, we do not feel that we deserve a protracted holiday at this crucial phase of the peace process. He also said that the multilateral working groups should be reconvened at the earliest opportunity.

The Foreign Ministry director general went on to say that Israel will continue to boycott talks in which the Palestinians are represented by others besides residents of the territories. With that, Hadas called on the sides to the discussions to leave the political issues of the bilateral talks out of the multilateral discussions on regional issues. He proposed that in order for the working groups to proceed toward their objectives, that subgroups be set up to specialize in defined and selected topics. He proposed the establishment of a working group on cooperation in the area of health, and Israel is circulating a working paper on the subject.

## Inter-Arab Affairs

### Arab League Chief Urges Halt to Israeli Attacks

*NC2805084492 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0801 GMT 28 May 92*

[Text] Beirut, 28 May (MENA)—Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid has emphasized that the Arab League calls for rapid efforts to stop the Israeli acts of aggression against Lebanon because they threaten world peace and security. He expressed his regret if Israel is taking these actions for election purposes.

On the Israeli threats to Syria, Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid said that Syria's position is sound and strong and undoubtedly Israel takes this into consideration, because the issue is complex.

In a statement to the Lebanese newspaper AL-NAHAR during his visit to Paris and published today, Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid denied that Arab sponsorship of the al-Ta'if agreement has ceased, noting that if the current tense situation makes implementation of certain clauses of the accord difficult, commitment to implementing it is existing and holding.

On the Libyan-Western crisis, Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid pointed out that the attempts aimed at settling the crisis are continuing and must continue. He said he calls for dialogue between the Libyan side and the Western parties. He noted that he broached proposals in his talks with French President Francois Mitterrand and expressed his hope that they will lead to a solution to the issue. He said that the Libyan position has shown flexibility.

### 'Abd-al-Majid on French Concern

*NC2805092492 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0837 GMT 28 May 92*

[Text] London, 28 May (MENA)—Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid has stressed that France is concerned with ending the repeated Israeli acts of aggression against Lebanon. He pointed out that France agreed to his request to adopt along with the other permanent members of the Security Council a unified position on the need to stop the Israeli operations.

On the Iraqi people's suffering, Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid, in an exclusive statement to the London-based AL-HAYAH published today, noted that the Iraqi people, especially women and children, are suffering because of shortages in food and medicine. He noted, however, that there is a possibility of sending foodstuffs and medical supplies to Iraq for humanitarian reasons without lifting the blockade. He said: As Arabs we are duty-bound to show understanding for this suffering. Since Western countries and establishments give Iraq foodstuffs and medical supplies, is it reasonable that Arabs should fail to cooperate with the Security Council and these establishments to alleviate the Iraqi people's suffering? He stressed that there is no connection between the arrival of food and medical supplies in Iraq and lifting the embargo. He pointed out that what he wants to stress is that the Iraqi people are indeed suffering and the aid is required to alleviate it. He added: The issue has nothing to do with whether we agree with the Iraqi leadership.

### Arab League Head Comments on Libya Mediation

*LD2705164592 Paris Radio France Internationale in French 1230 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] Our second guest in the studio today is Arab League Secretary General 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, currently in Paris. In fact, he had talks with French President Francois Mitterrand yesterday. Olivier Da Lage met him this morning and asked him what point had been reached in the Arab League mediation between Libya and the United Nations:

[Begin recording] ['Abd-al-Majid] The Arab League is trying to find a solution acceptable by all parties and I think we have explained very clearly our viewpoint, which is also based on Libya's flexible and, let us say, reasonable stand of accepting cooperation with the examining magistrate in France, of accepting a neutral court for the trial of its two suspects. So from this point of view Libya's stand has become known and set forth. I have had the opportunity to talk about it during my visit to Paris.

[Da Lage] So far the Security Council has not been fully satisfied with Libyan explanations.

['Abd-al-Majid] I know, but in my view there must be continued dialogue between the parties involved in order to try to find an acceptable solution and avoid an escalation in sanctions.

[Da Lage] Do you not fear that the UNSC permanent members might vote new resolutions?

['Abd-al-Majid] The possibility is certainly there but I believe this would complicate things and not solve the problems.

[Da Lage] In your view, is the solution to the problem of a political or legal nature?

['Abd-al-Majid] There is an important legal aspect, there is a matter of observance of international law, and neither can one pass over the sovereignty of a state in silence.

[Da Lage] On a different subject: The Arab League is made up of a number of states that sometimes experience problems in the relations between them: Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, Algeria, Morocco. What role can the Arab League efficiently play today to prevent the beginning of conflict from becoming real conflict?

['Abd-al-Majid] We are 21 Arab countries and you may realize that there are different viewpoints. The most serious crisis experienced by the Arab world has certainly been the Gulf War and Iraq's violation of the provisions of the Arab League Charter. I hope this will never happen again. We are trying to find a formula to set up an Arab Court to settle contentious matters and also draw up a stand regarding the Arab peace-keeping forces. There are all sorts of ideas currently being discussed. [end recording]

### Libya Stance 'Moderate, Flexible'

*NC2805081492 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2116 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] Cairo, 27 May (MENA)—Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid has affirmed that Libya is taking a moderate and flexible position in its crisis with the West, and that it now is ready to abide by UN Security Council Resolution 731, which does not call for surrendering the two men accused of the American airliner explosion.

In an interview with AL-AHRAM to be published Thursday [28 May], he said dialogue is the key to a solution, and Libya is ready to initiate such a dialogue. The Western states, however, so far have rejected this. Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid said he thinks the crisis is now at a crossroads; either there is a peaceful solution, or the situation escalates, and this is what I dread. He said that escalation will not be in any party's interest.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid said that the Arabs are standing on solid ground because they are demanding dialogue based on international laws and conventions while the other side is rejecting dialogue.

The Arab League secretary general explained that if all the parties accept the principle of investigation and trial, a neutral international court could be established to look into the case. However, he said, we must first specify where the trial will be held and on what law the court will base its proceedings. If Libya accepts the principle of such a court, it accepts in advance implementation of the verdict it will hand down.

Answering a question on France's position on the crisis with Libya, Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid said that France's position is much different from that of the United States and Britain. This is because France has not demanded that Libya surrender the people accused in the case involving the French plane which crashed in the Niger desert. He said French law does not permit the extradition of French nationals to any foreign country, and for this reason it respects this principle and does not ask others to do what it does not do itself. The Arab League secretary general noted that Libya is fully in tune [mutajawibah] with the French demands.

Answering a question, Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid affirmed that the Arab League is working to promote Arab-European dialogue, which must be based on equality between the two sides. He noted that committees will meet in Cairo and Brussels in June and July to discuss ways to promote this dialogue. They will discuss specific plans in preparation for their implementation. There will also be agreements for safeguarding and promoting investment.

Regarding the Arabs' role and status in the new world order, Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid said that the Arabs' status and position in the new world order is up to the Arabs themselves, and we must look for what can bring us closer rather than what divides us.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid did not deny the existence of differences in the Arab world, but he affirmed that there is a great scope for joint Arab action and tangible steps to strengthen unity, solidarity, and common interests among the Arab states.

## Palestinian Affairs

### Transitional Government To Be Announced 1 Nov

*PM2605083492 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 21 May 92 p 3*

[Unattributed report about interview with Dr. Nabil Sha'th, adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, in Amman; date not given]

[Excerpts] Amman, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT bureau—Dr. Nabil Sha'th, special adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, revealed that a Palestinian transitional self-government will be announced on 1 November after the legislative elections on 1 October.

In an interview with AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, Sha'th confirmed that the government will be announced on time, as stated in the U.S. letter of assurances to the Palestinian negotiating delegation.

Sha'th expressed optimism regarding the serious discussion of all the topics on the negotiating table, the aim being to pave the way to solutions acceptable to all parties. He added: Having succeeded in resisting the municipal elections idea proposed by the other side, we favor a process that should begin with general elections for a Palestinian legislative council. This would constitute a correct and real start to creating a Palestinian central authority, that would then in turn hold municipal and local elections not subject to Israeli military rule. The authority would then lie with the Palestinian people—not with the Israeli military government.

Chairman 'Arafat's adviser stated that these details were contained in the U.S. letter of assurances. Even if Israel does not agree, he said, U.S. and international pressure will compel it to continue the negotiation process and to change its position; otherwise Israel's economic and political conditions will change. He said that a clear example of this was when the U.S. Administration—with the aim of continuing the peace process—stopped the $10 billion loan guarantees to halt the building of settlements. The results were extremely important, the first being that Germany suspended the $2.2 billion loans that it had promised. Another result was that the immigration of Russian and Ukranian Jews dropped to a minimum. The number of Jewish immigrants dropped from 46,500 in December 1990 to 1,300 last month.

We should expect the negotiations to continue a long time before tangible achievements emerge, he said. He added: We view the negotiations as a form of direct engagement with the Israelis who occupy our land, while on the other hand we clash with them daily through the intifadah, without which we would not have been involved in the negotiations and would not have achieved anything.

Concerning the multilateral negotiations, Dr. Sha'th said that there was some apprehension and sensitivity about them, inasmuch as normalizing relations with Israel could precede any tangible results in the bilateral negotiations.

He added: That is Syria's and Lebanon's view, and they have their justifications, but the matter can be viewed from a different angle. In this phase of the multilateral negotiations, we have managed a breakthrough on two issues; something that was very difficult in the past. These two issues are the right to repatriation, and Jerusalem. That is the result of our insistence in the Moscow negotiations about the participation of Palestinians from the diaspora in the Palestinian delegation. We succeeded in securing full representation in the Refugees Committee in Ottawa, Canada, and the Economic and Development Committee in Brussels. The entire issue of the right to repatriation was opened to discussion in Ottawa. [passage omitted]

The big surprise for Israel, which boycotted these two committees, was that the United States reaffirmed its commitment to resolution 242. We then raised resolution 237, on the right of the 1967 refugees to repatriation. Once again Washington reaffirmed its commitment to implementing that resolution and said it preferred to have it discussed in the bilateral negotiations. [passage omitted]

The Palestinian official said that Israel's nonparticipation in these committees encouraged the United States to acknowledge these UN resolutions as a measured punishment for Israel for refusing to attend and also as a principled position that the United States has not yet abandoned.

The second achievement, in Dr. Sha'th's view, was that the issue of Jerusalem was again raised in the multilateral committees, on the basis that, regarding the environment and economic issues, and in fact all issues, Jerusalem should be treated the same as the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Dr. Sha'th said that a meeting of Jordanian and Palestinian delegations will be held in Amman in the first week of June, similar to the meeting in Cairo between the Palestinian delegation and Egyptian officials.

He also said that the foreign ministers of the Arab countries participating in the bilateral negotiations (Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, and Palestine) will meet in Amman at the end of June. [passage omitted]

'Arafat's political adviser praised the initiative taken by Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd for the repair of the al-Aqsa mosque, the Dome of the Rock, and the 'Umar Ibn-al-Khattab mosque in Jerusalem.

He said that at its latest meeting in Tunis the Palestinian Central Council addressed a message of gratitude and appreciation to Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd for that. [passage omitted]

He also said: We have noticed the positive role played by the Saudi delegation in the multilateral negotiations, especially in Ottawa and Brussels, and the major role played by Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal in Moscow. We hope that this marks the beginning of more Arab coordination. [passage omitted]

He said that there were several reasons for postponing President Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Jordan, the most important being that after the plane accident he had many important meetings to attend. These meetings, he added, produced a positive Palestinian decision that had to be made before the resumption of the negotiations.

He stated that the Palestinian president will visit Amman soon and that meetings will be held between both sides at cabinet and Executive Committee levels.

### Commentary—'Cautious Optimism' on Peace Process

*LD2405122292 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1800 GMT 23 May 92*

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Brothers: Assurances that said that a Palestinian transitional government will be announced at the beginning of November following the legislative elections of the legislative council for the transitional stage in the occupied areas—these assurances, based on American guarantees presented to the Palestinian side in the previous round of negotiations in Washington—mean that the peace process in the area has entered a crucial stage. This requires a high degree of Arab coordination, especially when the talk about the peace process means realizing a comprehensive peace on all fronts, not with partial or piecemeal solutions, which proved that these cannot realize the desired objectives.

These assurances mean that some progress has been realized or that such progress is in the course of crystallizing regarding the Palestinian-Israel talks on the transitional stage. The outlines of this progress will become clear after the coming Israeli elections and the U.S. presidential elections.

In this connection, it is worth pointing out the following:

First, the talks here are about American assurances to the Palestinian side at a time when we have not felt any change in the attitudes of the Israeli Government, which is headed by Yitzhaq Shamir. Indeed, this government escalated its tone, and the hardened statements of its ministers concerning withdrawal from the occupied areas, which are considered part of greater Israel; the refusal to stop building settlements; and the refusal to accept any political measures in the occupied areas that would tend to weaken Israeli control in these areas—like legislative elections and the proclamation of a transitional government—are proof of this.

Consequently, it is legitimate to pose some questions about the reasons American assurances have been relied on: Is it possible to change the Israeli position, or is it possible to substitute the Likud's power?

Second, the Palestinian experience with American assurances is a bitter one in some aspects. Consequently, realizing these assurances is the real test of how credible they are. And here, there is room for only cautious optimism—particularly when experience has proved that the changes in the U.S. Middle East policy occurred more often than it stayed the same and that several months can prove to be enough to produce changes that are not only tactical but are also strategic.

Third, despite the fact that the broad lines of the current peace process do not have a direct and clear linkage with the progress of the peace process about the various negotiation fronts, however, these bases have confirmed that the talks are about a comprehensive peace concerning the basis of the two UN Security Council Resolutions, 242 and 338. Consequently, one cannot isolate or separate any progress on the front of the Palestinian-Israeli negotiations from the rest of the fronts. So, here we stress the importance and need to develop Arab coordination, and the Jordanian-Palestinian meetings and (?agreements) assume great importance. Also, the coming meetings of the foreign ministers of the Arab sides are taking part in bilateral negotiations, in order to stress the refusal to accept partial or piecemeal solutions and to demand a comprehensive progress.

Fourth, if progress in the field of Palestinian-Israeli negotiations is to be in harmony with what was stated in the broad lines of the letters of invitation to the peace conference concerning the need to reach an agreement about the transitional stage within one year, it is not possible to isolate the American assurances on this from the fact that such progress—if it did actually take place—would happen before the American presidential elections. It will mean a great deal in American domestic considerations, especially when it would be the only progress that may take place within the framework of the current peace process in the Middle East initiated by the United States.

Our belief is that these and other points should receive the attention of the various Arab sides taking part in the peace process—the process of coordinating and evaluating [words indistinct] that matches the crucial stage reached in the negotiations.

### PLO Moves To Stem Violence Among Palestinians

*JN2305063792 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 23-24 May 92 pp 1,5*

[Article by JORDAN TIMES staff reporter Lamis K. Andoni: "Concern Mounts Over Spiralling Inter-Palestinian Violence and its Impact"]

[Text] In a move to stem acts of violence among Palestinians and to preserve national unity, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leadership has urged the Unified Command of the Intifada to declare "a pact of honour" among the various political factions in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The move, contained in a letter addressed to the Unified Command of the Intifada by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, also involved a declaration of a ban on killings and acts of violence as means to settle rifts among the various factions.

The PLO's call came amid growing demands by prominent Palestinian leaders from the occupied territories to stop the killing of suspected collaborators and rising concern that political rivalry is undermining the almost five-year-old intifada.

In an unprecedented open criticism, the chief Palestinian negotiator, Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, condemned the killing of suspected collaborators describing it as "an unjustifiable act."

Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi's comments reflected widespread resentment of the killings which were gradually being used to settle political and even personal differences. In some cases innocent people were killing without any investigation into allegations that they collaborated with the Israeli authorities.

Furthermore, some of the killings were apparently perpetrated by religious zealots against individuals who indulged in alcohol, drugs or other "immoral activities."

Investigation findings reported to the PLO leadership in Tunis over the last three years also showed that the reasons for the killings were extremely absurd and had no political relevance at all. In one incident that happened two years ago, a professional, reportedly a physician, was killed for watching "obscene" video films—i.e. either pornography or films with sexually explicit scenes.

Some Palestinian political observers fear that if the spate of killings does not stop it could either encourage broader-scale attacks by religious extremists against seculars or/and give way to an escalation of violence as a means of settling political differences between supporters and opponents of the peace talks with Israel.

There is also concern that if the killings are not stopped or even banned by the leadership, then extremists, either religious or nationalist, or even Israeli undercover agents, will use the recurrence of such incidents to try to assassinate members of the Palestinian negotiating team.

In an effort to narrow the rift, Mr. 'Arafat urged, in his letter to the intifada leadership last week, the various factions to foster national unity.

He has called on the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) to join the ranks of the Unified Command of the Intifada in a gesture aimed at achieving national reconciliation and to preempt a potential bloody conflict over the peace process.

But in a statement to al-Ra'y daily, published Friday, Hamas spokesman in Jordan Ibrahim Ghawshah implied that his movement could not join the unified command while the PLO continued to authorise Palestinian participation in the peace process.

"... Any form of national unity that does not adhere to the unity and sanctity of all of the Palestinian soil is unfortunately a fake unity," Mr. Ghawshah said in a clear reference to his movement's rejection to any solution short of the liberation of all of Palestine.

Mr. Ghawshah's reaction was the first by Hamas to Mr. 'Arafat's initiative, also published in AL-RA'Y on Friday. But it was still unclear if that was the final stance of the Islamic movement.

Political analysts expect the initiative, if properly pursued, to at least launch talks among the various factions and ease the tension that has intensified since the launching of the peace process last October.

According to Palestinian activists from the occupied territories, political conflicts among the PLO groups, mostly over peace talks, have turned into violent confrontations, so far on a narrow scale, across the West Bank and Gaza strip.

In most cases, where political verbal arguments evolved into fights—fisticuffs and breaking into office and gathering places of rival groups—mediation by senior officials and members of the negotiating team [as published] on succeeded in preventing the rows from widening.

But many activists have expressed fears that the situation could get out of control.

In his hardhitting comments, Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi, a widely respected 73-year-old physician, warned that the increasing violence indicated that the Unified Command of the Intifada was losing control over the anti-occupation revolt.

"It seems that that unified command no longer exists," Dr. 'Abd- al-Shafi told Reuters in Gaza last week.

The unified command, which comprises representatives of major Palestinin groups, is believed to have been remarkably weakened by ensuing differences over the peace process and other political splits within the Palestinian movement.

In addition to the competition between Hamas, which came into being after the intifada started in December 1987, and the unified command to win the allegiance of the Palestinian masses, the various groups within the command have been issuing contradicatory statements creating confusion among the people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

PLO officials said that the unified command and the PLO leadership were reassessing the tactics used in the intifada as criticism voiced by many Palestinians about outdated methods that had backfired and had actually caused popular resistance.

A case in point are strikes, which are now less often used by the leadership in an effort to boost the economic survival and economy of the Palestinians under Israeli occupation.

Another is the killing of collaborators, which, some argue, should continue in a bid to prevent Israel from using Palestinian spies, [punctuation as published] to arrest or kill activists. But Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi's remarks, carried by Reuters on Wednesday, indicated that the assassinations are inflicting serious damage to national unity and the Palestinian negotiating position.

During the last round of Arab-Israeli bilateral talks in Washington last month, the Israelis publicly brushed aside Palestinian demands for elections for a legislative assembly to run Palestinian affairs during the three-year interim period by citing the killing of collaborators as a sign of Palestinian unpreparedness for a democratic process.

Although the Israeli claims were dismissed by Palestinian negotiators as attempts to sidestep the real issues and justify the occupation, Palestinians are careful not to give the Isrelis a pretext to discredit, at least in front of international public opinion, their demands to transfer the authority to Palestinians over the land and the people at the end of the interim period.

So far, however, many have argued against criticising the killings of suspected collaborators in public for fear that it could play in the hands of the Israelis.

But Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi, who is apparently growing impatient, does not belong to any group but is respected by all. He challenged all such arguments.

In another unprecedented public challenge to the Palestinian leadership but without any hint of hostility, Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi expressed hope that raising the issue in public could create popular pressure on the leadership to stop the killings.

## PLO Stresses UN Resolutions 194, 237

*JN2205120892 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 22 May 92 pp 1, 15*

[Report by Riyad Mansur]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Palestinian sources stated that in its meetings under the chairmanship of Yasir 'Arafat two days ago, the PLO Executive Committee positively evaluated the performance of negotiating Arab delegations.

According to the sources, the Executive Committee stressed the need to support the Jordanian delegation and the other Arab delegations to all multilateral working groups.

The PLO expressed belief that the Arab delegations managed to prove that the bilaterals are the main talks, while the multilaterals are complementary ones, the sources added.

They stated that the PLO Executive Committee stressed the need to continue raising the subject of refugees on the basis of UN General Assembly Resolution 194 and Security Council Resolution 237—the latter concerns the 1967 refugees—in both the bilaterals and the multilaterals on the grounds that the issue is political in nature. The objective is to ensure the return of the 1948 and the 1967 refugees.

The sources stated that the Executive Committee rejected the question of resettlement of Palestinians. It also rejected discussion of the issue from the perspective of improving the refugees' living conditions.

## Australian Foreign Minister, PLO Delegation Meet

*JN2205080092 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 22 May 92 p 1*

[Text] Amman—At his request, Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans met with a Palestinian delegation comprised of PLO Executive Committee Member Bishop Iliya Khuri and PLO Central Council members 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Yahya, Muhammad Milhim, and Dr. Hanna Nasir.

They reviewed the current situation in the region, the peace process, and Australian-Palestinian relations.

Evans briefed the delegation about the results of his visit to the occupied homeland and of his meetings and impressions.

For its part, the Palestinian delegation reviewed the current situation—especially concerning Jerusalem—Israel's settlement activity, and the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. The delegation stressed the need for making further international efforts to achieve just peace in the region based on global legitimacy.

# Algeria

## Ambassador to Belgrade Recalled for 'Consultations'

*LD2605214892 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 May 92*

[Text] This evening our ambassador in Belgrade was recalled for consultations regarding the tense situation in Bosnia-Hercegovina. The Foreign Ministry official spokesman announced in a statement today that Algeria is following with great interest the development of the situation in the former Yugoslav republics.

Algeria, the spokesman added, remains very concerned with the painful events the Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina is still witnessing despite the repeated appeals by the international community as a whole to respect the territorial integrity of this republic, which has became a member of the United Nations.

## Concern Over Israeli 'Aggression' Expressed

*LD2605220192 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 May 92*

[Text] Algeria is very concerned and dismayed at the aggression taking place recently in southern Lebanon in the form of Israeli attacks on civilians, which have caused numerous losses in life and considerable material damage. This came in a statement by the official spokesman of our Foreign Ministry this Tuesday.

Algeria, the spokesman added, warns the international community against the continuation and expansion of these aggressions during this difficult time through which fraternal Lebanon is passing, and particularly the unarmed civilians in the south.

Algeria, the spokesman made it clear, renews its solidarity and points toward the great responsibility of the Security Council to put an end to these aggressions according to the charter of the United Nations to allow the full implementation of the al-Ta'if accord.

## Boudiaf Returns From Visit to Morocco

*LD2605191892 Rabat MAP in English 1230 GMT 26 May 92*

[Text] Algiers, May 26 (MAP)—The Chairman of the Algerian High State Committee Mohamed Boudiaf returned here Monday after a six day private visit to Morocco during which he met King Hassan II.

President Boudiaf attended his son's wedding ceremony in Kenitra where his family stays.

## Party Bloc Calls on Ghozali Government To Resign

*LD2305094892 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 May 92*

[Excerpts] The Bloc of National Fundamentals [Takattul Al-Thawabit Al-Wataniyah] is a rally that includes a number of political parties. It was set up at the beginning of this month and has met three times. The parties included in this Bloc raise the banner of defending national fundamentals and resisting the Franco-Communist trend, as stated in a resolution on the third meeting, held this morning at the Journalists and Artists Club in the National Radio Building.

The resolution includes several points: it stresses the defense of national fundamentals, the renunciation of the policy of containment, the opening of the door to dialogue, and the demand for the departure of the present government, in view of its failure and its replacement by a government of national reconciliation, and the establishment of peace in the Arab Maghreb region. The resolution also stresses freedom of information, as noted by the head of the Front of the Generations of Independent, Mr. Yousfi Mohamed:

[Begin Mohamed recording] Freedom of information means the lifting of pressures being exercised on the media. Second, we see the monopolizing of television, in particular by the government, and this thing, which is being denounced by the Bloc, that demands that television be broadened to include parties with other points of view.

The last thing is in foreign policy; we demanded support for the Libyan people, the Saharan people, the Palestinian people, and the Iraqi people. [end recording]

[Studio] The Bloc of National Fundamentals also seeks the revival of the dialogue among the various national elements, foremost of which is the Higher State Council, but the Bloc expresses its opposition to the government's program. [passage omitted]

## Paper: Cabinet To Fall, Ghozali To Be Dismissed

*NC2705211892 Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic 25 May 92 p 11*

[Report by Fayzah Sa'd]

[Text] ROSE AL-YUSUF has learned that a new Algerian cabinet will soon be formed and that Sid Ahmed Ghozali, whose dispute with Higher State Council Chairman Mohamed Boudiaf has intensified over the upcoming presidential elections, will be dismissed.

The military leadership in Algiers has initiated a series of meetings to promote a military candidate for the presidency. Defense Minister Khaled Nezzar has met with a group of military commanders dismissed by former President Chadli Bendjedid.

Rumors in Algiers indicate that Boudiaf has no intention of running for the presidency after the expiration of the transitional period. He has, however, asked the Algerian Army to back him until he fulfills the mission entrusted to him.

### Committee Formed to Support State Council

*LD2605104992 Algiers APS in Arabic 0932 GMT 26 May 92*

[Text] Algiers, 26 May (APS)—A provisional committee of 25 members was elected yesterday at 'Ain Temouchent to provide support to the Higher State Council and Ghozali's government.

The meeting from which the committee emerged was chaired by a member of the National Liberation Front Political Bureau, (Ahmed) Bouchaib who, according to a statement by him to APS, was acting in a personal capacity. During his intervention, he pointed out the difficult conditions experienced by Algeria for some months. Then he said that it is time for patriots to get together and stressed that it is the duty of patriots to defend the homeland against all the threats and conflicts that beset it.

The meeting was attended by 250 people representing various social groups. It is worth noting that the provisional committee is to meet on Thursday [28 May] to elect a bureau.

### 2 Armed People Arrested by Gendarmerie

*LD2705165892 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] An authorized source at the national gendarmerie command told the radio today that the gendarmerie services had arrested two armed people who had in their possession a MAT-49 submachinegun in Meftah, in the province of Blida, last night.

A person who had in his possession an automatic pistol and a considerable quantity of ammunition was arrested in the town of (Zelida), in the province of Ain Defla.

Two people named Bouhocine and Boudjaafar, who had in their possession documents on the manufacturing of bombs, were arrested in the town of Setif.

APS said that the national gendarmerie services had lately uncovered a workshop for the manufacture of firearms in the region of Salah Bey in the province of Setif. The investigation, which took place following an incident in which one person had in his possession a pistol which he used in a quarrel with another person, resulted in uncovering a workshop for manufacturing various weapons. This workshop is owned by a person whose trade is the repair and sale of firearms.

### Nahda Leader Denies Involvement in 'Violence'

*LD2805081792 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 2200 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] Abdallah Djaballah, leader of Islamic Nahda Movement, in a statement published this evening, says that his party is innocent of all the current injustice in the national arena, and that the activists of the movement are supporters of the fundamentals and values of society, and are compassionate, tolerant, sincere and patriotic people who believe in dialogue as a tool for settling disagreements. They hate violence and do not accept the claims of the authorities or anyone else that they resort to evil and corruption in settling political problems.

He adds: The Islamic Nahda Movement believes in a multiparty system and political freedom under the umbrella of an Islamic state, considering these beliefs to be among the pillars, points of strength, and factors of stability of government.

Earlier today, some news agencies reported there is a possibility that the Interior Ministry would open a dossier on the Islamic Nahda Movement to gather evidence and proof that that party was involved in the acts of violence witnessed in some towns.

The movement became the subject of suspicion and accusations when some elements of the movement became involved in the explosion at Constantine University, which led to three dead and large material losses.

## Egypt

### Mubarak, Armenian President Hold Round of Talks

*NC2705090992 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0855 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] Cairo, 27 May (MENA)—President Mubarak held a round of talks with Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan at the Presidential Office this morning.

The Armenian president arrived in Cairo yesterday on an official three-day visit.

The talks today dealt with a number of issues of common interest and the situation in Armenia and the Middle East in light of recent developments.

The talks lasted an hour and a half and were attended for part of the time by Foreign Ministers 'Amr Musa and Raffi Hovannisian.

### President Mubarak Reasserts Support for Libya

*LD2505214292 Tripoli JANA in English 1626 GMT 25 May 92*

[Text] Cairo, Al-Ma' [May] 25, JAMAHIRYAH NEWS AGENCY—The President of the Arab Republic of Egypt Muhammad Husni Mubarak yesterday reasserted the support of the Arab people in Egypt for the Great Jamahiryah in countering the new colonial campaign.

This came in an address by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak to the People's Congress at the province of Asyut yesterday.

### Assembly Committee Urges Intervention in Bosnia

*NC2505141792 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1218 GMT
25 May 92*

[Text] Cairo, 25 May (MENA)—The Foreign Relations Committee of the People's Assembly called for swift and decisive intervention by the international community to halt the inhuman practices being committed against innocent and defenseless civilians in Bosnia-Hercegovina.

In a statement today, the committee called on all international and regional organizations, the EC, the Islamic Conference Organization, and all world parliaments to intervene quickly; to exercise all possible pressure to stop the unbridled aggression against Bosnia-Hercegovina; to provide all necessary humanitarian aid; to repatriate the displaced to their homes; and to establish peace and stability in this Muslim republic.

After its meeting today, the Foreign Relations Committee expressed support for Egypt's decisive, principled position in confronting the aggression against Bosnia-Hercegovina and denouncing the acts of mass killing and expulsion.

The committee also expressed support for Egypt's diplomatic efforts to mobilize all forces to take collective international measures to stop the bloodbaths, preserve Muslims' lives, and force Serbian forces to withdraw from Bosnia-Hercegovina.

### Daily Parallels Serbian, Israeli Violence

*NC2405064692 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2036 GMT
23 May 92*

[Text] Cairo, 23 May (MENA)—In its Sunday editorial, the newspaper AL-AKHBAR stated that the scenario being played by the Serbian Government and the Black Mountain [Montenegro] in Croatia and Bosnia-Hercegovina is almost the same as the one Israel is implementing in southern Lebanon. The paper said the Serbian leaders and the Black Mountain are using Israel's longstanding method—ignoring all UN and Security Council resolutions—as an example of how to act and how to avoid punishment. Perhaps this is why the Serbs insist on using all the weapons of the former Yugoslav Army against the small republics that exercised their right to determine their own futures.

AL-AKHBAR said that the international community's leniency in calling Israel to account for the crimes it has committed—and still commits against the people of the occupied land—and its occupation of a large area of southern Lebanon, where it practices its pastime of killing and destruction, sets the worst example for other countries. Other countries think it possible to act the same and violate all legal and human rights and remain confident that no one will prevent their inhuman behavior.

Concluding its editorial, AL-AKHBAR said the United Nations officially accepted Bosnia-Hercegovina as a member, and thus, the new state has the right to seek the protection of the international organization. We expect the United Nations to exercise this basic role and to use the clauses outlined in its charter in cases similar to that of newly born republic before intervention becomes fruitless.

### Musa Cited on South African Developments, OAU

*NC2705074392 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1533 GMT
26 May 92*

[Text] Cairo, 26 May (MENA)—Foreign Minister Musa affirmed Egypt's support for the positive developments that have occurred in South Africa. He said that the complete revocation of apartheid and establishing a genuine democratic system in South Africa will significantly add to the African continent's achievements.

In a speech he delivered at a ceremony held in Cairo today to mark Africa Day, Musa said: We are fully confident that maintaining the OAU and keeping it strong will contribute to easing tension and strengthening peace and security not only in Africa but in the entire world. He expressed hope that the African states will cooperate to further strengthen the OAU's role in preventing conflicts and resolving existing strife. The foreign minister emphasized the common destiny and aspirations of the African people and their collective efforts to ensure a better future for coming generations.

Musa noted that establishing the OAU on 25 May 1963 paved the way for African solidarity, the complete liberation of all African territory, and the establishment of the basis of economic and social development for its peoples. He affirmed that economic and social progress is considered one of the other challenges facing Africa, indicating that genuine independence, stability, and the future of peace cannot be maintained without strong economic growth.

The foreign minister also emphasized the need to speed up African programs so Africa can develop self-reliance and gradually achieve economic integration. He noted that the signing of the agreement about establishing an African economic grouping is an important step in this regard.

Musa stressed the importance of encouraging the private sector in Africa to promote trade and to investment and to facilitate transferring technology to the African states. He said: We must search together for new ways to increase cooperation between the developing South and the developed North. A united, stable Africa could become a good partner with others in forming our new world.

Concluding his speech, he said: We reaffirm our commitment not to spare any effort until we achieve all OAU objectives.

### Foreign Ministry Welcomes Talks on Southern Sudan

*NC2605154192 Cairo Egyptian Space Channel in Arabic 1400 GMT 26 May 92*

[Text] Egypt today welcomed talks between the Sudanese Government and other Sudanese parties in the Nigerian capital Abuja to achieve peace in southern Sudan.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman hoped the Abuja talks would succeed, providing peace and stability for the fraternal Sudanese people, preserving Sudanese unity, and promoting the country's progress and development.

### King Husayn's Offer To Repair Mosques Ridiculed

*NC2405145192 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 17 May 92 pp 1, 3*

[Article by Jalal Duwaydar: "Enough Lies, Your Majesty"]

[Excerpt] Jordan's press—bought by Saddam Husayn to praise and bless his exploits and his crimes against the Iraqi and Arab people—reported recently that Husayn Bin-Talal sold a palace in London for $8.2 million and that he decided to spend the money to repair and restore the Dome of the Rock and the al-Aqsa Mosque in occupied Jerusalem. But these reports failed to mention which of the kings's many palaces around the world was sold.

The Jordanian papers also failed to report that King Husayn gave this palace to his British ex-wife and his sons from that marriage and that he decided to sell it in a moment of anger with her—which is contrary to Arab values, principles, and chivalry.

To prove its credibility, the Jordanian press should have mentioned the king's palaces in Britain, the United States, Switzerland, Spain, and Austria—which are worth hundreds of millions of dollars. It should tell where he got the money to buy them. It is also its duty to report about the hundreds of millions [currency not specified] that the king received from Saddam Husayn for his support and how much money has been stolen from the Iraqi people and transferred to Jordan to bypass the UN resolutions.

It is ridiculous for the Jordanian papers to link the king's sale of the palace where his ex-wife is living and the repair and restoration of the al-Aqsa Mosque.

This disgraceful and suspicious announcement came in the wake of Egypt's wise and responsible move to repair the al-Aqsa Mosque. Egypt's action is completely in line with its Arab and Islamic status and its defense of Arab interests, values, and security. It is also part of its desire to assist the Arabs in difficult times. Egypt already sent a high-level technical team to Jerusalem to inspect the mosque and determine what needs to be done. Upon its return, the team took the necessary measures to carry out the repairs.

At the same time, fraternal Saudi Arabia acted to help, through UNICEF, in the restoration process. It decided to cooperate with Egypt in this pan-Arab and Islamic action out of its belief in the seriousness and effectiveness of the Egyptian effort. It allocated $10 million for the effort. A Saudi delegation arrived in Cairo yesterday to participate in Egypt's studies and preparations to repair the Dome of the Rock and al-Aqsa Mosque.

Instead of expressing their thanks and gratitude to Egypt and Saudi Arabia, the Jordanian regime and its press resorted to cheap insults of both countries and their initiative, which enjoys the appreciation of the Arab and Islamic worlds. The Jordanian press has begun to spread lies blaming Egypt and Saudi Arabia for the consequences of the vile crime committed by the Iraqi regime with the backing and blessing of the Jordanian regime.

Proud and great Egypt is undertaking this Arab-Islamic work by relying on the pan-Arabism of the Egyptian people, who have given much for the nation and its causes. Egypt will not abandon its Arab and Islamic responsibilities—despite its economic conditions and even though it does not own palaces in other capitals that it can offer for sale, like the ones owned by King Husayn.

The Jordanian press was rented by Saddam Husayn to praise and support his aggression against Kuwait. Now it is raising this clamor about the money to be spent to repair the al-Aqsa Mosque, which is an attempt to conceal the new plot by the king, who is searching for an Arab role in which he can say: "We are here."

It is regrettable that the Jordanian regime is talking about Arab solidarity and reunion at a time when its despicable plots against Arab solidarity and unity are being exposed. It believes that it is possible to continue to double cross and deceive the Arab people by exploiting false and imaginary slogans that serve its own interests, strengthen its presence, and obtain more funds to buy more palaces and augment its personal wealth and assets in foreign banks. [passage omitted]

## Reportage on President's Tour of Governorates

### Mubarak Inaugurates Asyut Oil Refinery

*NC2405132392 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1242 GMT 24 May 92*

[Excerpt] Cairo, 24 May (MENA)—As part of his efforts to follow up on development projects in Egypt, President Mubarak inaugurated today the Asyut Company for Oil Refining.

Dr. Hamdi al-Banbi, petroleum and mineral resources minister, clarified in a report he gave to President Mubarak that the refinery's maximum capacity is 2.5 million tons a year, which is pumped through 340 km of pipeline from Ra's Shukhayr on the Gulf of Suez.

He said the refinery is designed to handle 5 million tons of crude oil in the future. He pointed out that this figure will be realized at the end of the third five-year development plan, which begins in July.

He explained that Upper Egypt's consumption of oil represents 15 percent of the country's total oil consumption.

Al-Banbi adds that the Asyut Company for Oil Refining cost around 230 million Egyptian pounds. [passage omitted]

### Views Economic Reform, Production

*NC2505160392 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1341 GMT 25 May 92*

[Text] Qina, 25 May (MENA)—Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif said at the end of a conference in Qina that President Husni Mubarak reviewed at this meeting foreign and domestic national work issues and referred to economic reform measures. The president rejected the call by some to raise the issue of fixing prices, pointing out that the whole world has brought down this issue.

The president said that no country in the world can fix prices, and experiments in this regard are clear. Moreover, the president added, the policy of fixing prices was at some stage the main cause of the collapse of the national economy in every country—including Egypt—that adopted the policy.

The information minister said President Mubarak explained at the conference that the economic reform policy is achieving growth in industrial production and expansion in agricultural production, in addition to liberalizing the prices of industrial and agricultural commodities. This, the president said, is countered by an increase in wages so that there will be a natural balance between prices and wages, and social and political stability are thus achieved through economic stability.

Mubarak pointed out that Egypt's economic reform policy relies on scientific and economic bases and takes into consideration the world's experiences to reach a gradually integrating economic system.

The president talked of the need to work and build with Egyptian hands so that we may pass this current stage, noting that the basis of economic reform and implementation of its policies is increased production.

The president concluded his remarks about economic reform by saying: We improve every year. We endured and surpassed the most difficult part and hope to reach economic stability and equilibrium in the next three years.

Commenting about the great economic and industrial facilities, such as the aluminum complex he visited today, President Mubarak said: Egyptian national security and social and economic stability require us to preserve these giant industrial facilities and open the door to Egyptian citizens to contribute to increasing capital to develop, expand, and raise the performance of these facilities.

The information minister said President Mubarak praised the Egyptian judiciary and the full confidence Egyptian judges enjoy. The president said that the judiciary is the symbol of Egypt's credibility in respecting human rights, adherence to just ruling, and eagerness to practice democracy.

The information minister added that President Mubarak asserted his adherence to the policy of frankness and putting forth the facts. The president noted that this comes within the framework of his respect for the people's right to knowledge and that this is the way to encourage the people and mobilize society to increase production and take initiatives to emerge from the empty circle.

The president praised what has been accomplished in production and the high quality of Egyptian production. He also praised Egyptian workers' ability, competence, and skill for their ability to quickly absorb modern technology to the point that the Egyptian product has become the object of admiration on an international level and been praised by all leaders and delegations that visit Egypt.

The information minister said President Mubarak explained Egypt's foreign policy, discussing the new world order, the unsettled conflicts in the Commonwealth states, the political and economic changes that are beginning to form on the world map, and disputes and conflicts among the Yugoslav republics.

The president also discussed Egyptian-Sudanese and Egyptian-Arab relations and the ongoing contacts among the Damascus Declaration countries.

### Returns to Cairo

*NC2505151192 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1320 GMT 25 May 92*

[Text] Cairo, 25 May (MENA)—President Mubarak returned to Cairo from Qina this afternoon, ending a two-day tour of Asyut, Suhaj, Luxor, and Qina, during which he inaugurated a number of new development projects.

During the tour, the president met with the people of these governorates at massive public conferences, during which he discussed many domestic and foreign issues.

The president was accompanied by the ministers of social insurances, communications, information, industry, interior, supply, culture, petroleum, and local government.

### Economy Minister, IMF Delegation Discuss Reforms

*NC2605195892 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1312 GMT*
*26 May 92*

[Text] Cairo, 26 May (MENA)—Economy and Foreign Trade Minister Dr. Yusri Mustafa met today the IMF delegation that is visiting Cairo.

Both sides discussed Egypt's steps within the economic reform program, particularly after the positive results achieved in the first phase of Egypt's agreement with the IMF, shown in the public deficit reduction to approximately 7 percent [figure as received].

Both sides reviewed accomplishments in the free stock market—where revenues rose to $14 billion in the past 13 months—through financing most public and private sector imports and through the stabilized rate of exchange of foreign currencies against the Egyptian pound.

The meeting also reviewed other achievements, shown in inflation dropping to 17 percent against 27 percent when the economic reform policy was first applied.

### Makramallah Cited on Foreign Debts Rescheduling

*NC2405064992 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0635 GMT*
*24 May 92*

[Text] Cairo, 24 May (MENA)—Dr. Maurice Makramallah, minister of state for international cooperation, stated that the timetable for settling Egypt's remaining debts with 17 Paris Club member countries will be completed at the end of June.

Speaking at the National Democratic Party's Political Club last night, Dr. Makramallah said Egypt's remaining debts total 17 billion Egyptian pounds. He added that the first stage will complete the rescheduling of 15 percent of the debts by the end of this year, another 15 percent after 18 months, and then 20 percent after another 18 months.

### IBRD Allocates Funds for Drainage Projects

*NC2405125692 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1000 GMT*
*24 May 92*

[Text] Cairo, 24 May (MENA)—The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development [IBRD] allocated $120 million for underground drainage projects covering 1 million feddans [1.038 acres] in several new areas in Egypt. Of this amount, $75 million will be granted through an easy-term, interest-free loan.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Hadi Radi, chairman of the drainage projects authority, said Germany allocated $3 million for the same project, in addition to $10 million in a nonrefundable grant provided by the Dutch Government to cover the cost for supplying the necessary equipment and pipe factories for the drainage project.

Dr. Radi added that the project will begin by building an underground drainage network for a new 600,000-feddan area, in addition to renovating the existing drainage networks for 130,000 feddans and completing similar projects in other areas. He added that the project will be completed within the next six years in all the areas, which will add a 30 percent increase in production.

The underground drainage projects have been implemented in an area of 3.8 million feddans and have enhanced the productivity of the land.

## Libya

### Official Says Extradition Law May Be Amended

*NC2105114292 Paris AFP in English 1111 GMT*
*21 May 92*

[Text] Cairo, May 21 (AFP)—Libya may amend its legislation forbidding extradition of its nationals in order to resolve its conflict with the West over the Lockerbie bombing, a Libyan official has hinted here.

"We want to avoid the destruction of our country," said Ahmad Qadhdhaf al-Damm, coordinator of Egyptian-Libyan relations, who was quoted by a Libyan source here Thursday.

"One of the solutions would be to amend the law prohibiting extradition."

Libya since April 15 has been under a United Nations air traffic and arms embargo for its failure to hand over two of its citizens to either Britain or the United States, where they have been charged in the 1988 bombing of a Pan Am plane over Lockerbie, Scotland.

The mid-air explosion killed 270 people.

Libyan authorities have expressed their willingness to cooperate in an international investigation, and have offered to turn the two over to Malta for trial, but rule out extradition to the United States or Britain.

Libya has argued that in light of the acquittal earlier this month of four white policemen from Los Angeles, who were videotaped in an attack on an unarmed black motorist, its nationals cannot expect to be fairly tried in the United States.

Al-Damm made his comments Wednesday at a meeting of Libyans living in Egypt, during which several speakers spoke out against extradition.

### Legislators' Rejection of Lockerbie Proposal Denied

*NC2705140492 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1135 GMT*
*27 May 92*

[Text] Tripoli, 27 May (MENA)—An informed source in Tripoli today denied reports published by some Arab newspapers that the Basic People's Congresses [BPC's] in Libya have rejected a proposal to hand over the Lockerbie suspects. The source pointed out that no final decision has been made on the issue.

In a statement to MENA, the source said that even if some speakers at the BPC's have said they refuse to hand over the suspects, "and they have a guaranteed right to say what they want," they are only expressing their own personal views.

The source explained that after the BPC's ended their primary meetings last Sunday, the second stage began. During this stage resolutions reached on the level of the "municipal branches" are formulated. He explained that this is followed by a third and final stage on 11 June, when the General Peoples Congress, the highest political organization in Libya, is convened. The General People's Congress will collect, formulate, and coordinate the decision reached by the majority in the Libyan Jamahiriyah. The source explained that only then will a final decision be reached, in a sound democratic way, which will be binding on the entire country both with regard to the Lockerbie case and other domestic and foreign issues.

### Egyptian Delegation Opposes 'Colonialist Onslaught'

*LD2705200492 Tripoli JANA in English 1649 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Ma' [May] 27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The secretary of the people's congresses affairs in the General People's Congress met this morning with the delegation representing Egyptian political parties including the labour party, the liberals, the Tajana'a party and the national party.

During the meeting the members of the delegation reaffirmed the support and solidarity of the Egyptian political parties with the Great Jamahiriyah in its resistance to the malevolent NATO colonialist onslaught. They also expressed their opposition to the NATO alliance resolution which has imposed tyrannical measures on the Great Jamahariyah, a resolution which can not be up held by any form of international legitimacy or convention.

The members of the delegation also stressed that widespread Arab unity is the only real solution to ensure Arab national security and to resist imperialist attempts against the Arab countries.

They said that this militias campaign is not only directed against the Great Jamahariyah but against the entire Arab and Islamic world.

The delegation called on all popular organizations and bodies in the Arab world to assume their historical role in raising awareness on the level of the Arab street as to the real intentions of this militias campaign namely, that the true nature of the conflict taking place in the Arab world with its enemies is a fight for existence. They said that the Egyptian parties would be at the forefront of the resistance to this unjust colonialist campaign.

The delegation then alerted the Arab countries to the need to implement the various resolutions in the Arab League's charter as well as those of the Arab League Council which call for showing solidarity with the Great Jamahiriyah.

## Mauritania

### Prime Minister Returns From Visit to France

*LD2405102892 Nouakchott ORTM Radio in Arabic 0000 GMT 24 May 92*

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Sidi Mohamed Ould Boubacer yesterday [23 May] returned to the capital from Paris after a 4-day visit to France, which enabled him to hold talks with many French officials. [passage omitted].

[Begin Boubacer recording] French officials expressed their determination to strengthen and develop cooperation between France and Mauritania in various fields. [passage omitted] The visit was fruitful and will have, God willing, positive repercussions on cooperation with France and on the support that will be offered by France to our country at the bilateral level or within the framework of international organizations. [passage omitted] [end recording]

### President Taya Receives Message From Iraq

*JN2605070492 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2016 GMT 25 May 92*

[Text] Nouakchott, 25 May (INA)—Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, president of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, today received Hamid Yusuf Hammadi, Iraqi minister of culture and information, and special envoy to his excellency the president. The envoy conveyed a message from the Iraqi leadership and government concerning the Arab and international situation as well as the fraternal bilateral relations.

The envoy explained to the Mauritanian leadership the achievements realized within the framework of the reconstruction campaign led and supervised by President Saddam Husayn and the steadfastness with which the great people of Iraq are confronting the unjust siege imposed by the United States and its allies.

Mauritanian President Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya welcomed the contents of the message and expressed his sincerest wishes and congratulations to President Saddam Husayn and the Iraqi leadership on their success in realizing this splendid steadfastness and great accomplishments in the field of reconstruction.

The meeting was attended by Ismail Ould Yahi, minister of liaison and parliamentary relations [title as received], and the Iraqi ambassador to Mauritania.

### Consultations for AMU Summit Still Under Way

*LD2705100492 Nouakchott ORTM Radio in Arabic*
*2030 GMT 26 May 92*

[Excerpts] President Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya received Mr. Mohamed Amamou, secretary general of the Arab Maghreb Union [AMU], at noon today.

After the audience, which was attended Mr. Cheikh Ould Ali, secretary of state for Maghreb Affairs, Mr. Amamou made the following statement:

[Begin Amamou recording] It was an honor for me to be received by His Excellency President Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, president of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, and chairman of the AMU Presidential Council. I conveyed to His Excellency my sincere congratulations for the gains made by the Mauritanian people under his wise and far-sighted leadership within the framework of democracy. I also presented to His Excellency a report on the progress of the AMU and its bodies. [passage omitted]

Proceeding from his continuous eagerness to support the AMU and its action, His Excellency President Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya entrusted me, in the presence of the secretary of state for Maghreb affairs in the Mauritanian Government, with conveying letters from him to his brothers the leaders of the AMU member-states. This is an honor for the Union and its secretary general.

[Unidentified reporter] What is the latest news about the forthcoming Maghreb summit?

[Amamou] You know that the Maghreb summit is at the center of consultations between His Excellency President Ould Taya and his brothers the leaders of the Arab Maghreb states. Mauritanian officials have held intensive contacts in this context, and the most recent of these contacts were the visit paid by His Excellency the [Mauritanian] prime minister, in the company of the foreign minister and the secretary of state for Maghreb affairs, to some of the Maghreb capitals, and also the recent visit by His Excellency the [Mauritanian] foreign minister to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah with a view to continuing the consultations on this matter. These consultations are still under way. [end recording]

## Sudan

### Al-Mahdi Cited on Abuja Conference Prospects

*PM2705152292 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic*
*26 May 92 p 5*

['Umar Muhammad al-Hasan report: "Former Sudanese Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi Tells AL-HAYAH: Abuja Conference's Success Depends on Several Issues—Principally, Religion, Politics, and Government System"]

[Excerpts] Khartoum—Former Sudanese Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi has welcomed the convening of the peace negotiations between the Sudanese Government and the two wings of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army scheduled to begin today, Tuesday, in the Nigerian capital, Abuja.

In a statement to AL-HAYAH yesterday al-Mahdi welcomed the Abuja meeting, "because I call for a peaceful solution to the country's issues. There can be no peaceful solution except through dialogue." He added: "I welcome Nigeria's hosting that meeting, because Nigeria itself is experiencing conditions similar to Sudan's, though they differ in detail. Besides, President Ibrahim Babangida is the current OAU president, which makes his participation in the search for peace influential and significant." [passage omitted]

Al-Mahdi described the Abuja meeting as a step toward agreement, "and the participants should not delude themselves that those who are unarmed have no opinions. This, because Sudan's representation extends far beyond just those who carry arms."

He called for a national constitutional conference at which all the Sudanese people are represented. He said: "The participants must discuss the details of that conference in order to agree on it, as long as they aim to ensure that the conference is comprehensive."

Al-Mahdi proposed that the questions of religion and the government system be resolved by not imparting an ideological character to the state, because it is not "a physical person, so it cannot have an ideology." He said: "The state is defined by the form of the citizens' relationship with the authorities and what determines the relationship among the authorities' various organs. So it is either totalitarian, democratic, autocratic, and so forth." He said: "What is needed is an agreement that the state must be democratic. This democratic state and its citizens must adhere to a Sudanese human rights document that clarifies and guarantees citizenship rights for all Sudanese."

The former Sudanese prime minister said that "in such a state the right of Islamic legislation should be guaranteed to the Muslim majority, if that is their wish. In it freedom of religion should also be guaranteed to all Sudanese national groups, as long as they adhere to the Sudanese human rights document."

On the second issue, the country's government system, al-Mahdi said: "It is essential to agree to guarantee human rights and basic freedoms, to assert the Sudanese people's fair involvement in self-government, and to achieve the adequate degree of noncentralism." [passage omitted]

At the end of his statement al-Mahdi wished the Abuja negotiations success. He said: "The Abuja meeting's success or failure depends on whether it moves toward or away from these aims. Though I am not represented at that meeting, I wish it success and hope that it will take steps toward the aims in question in order to find a just peaceful solution to the fighting in Sudan and to stop that war, which has harmed the country a lot."

## Islamic Party Official Attacked in Canada

*PM2705150092 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 27 May 92 pp 1, 4*

[Reports by 'Uthman al-Mirghani and Imam Muhammad Imam in London and Muhammad Sadiq in Washington: "Al-Turabi Attacked in Canada and Taken to Hospital in a Coma"]

[Excerpt] Dr. Hasan al-Turabi, secretary general of the Sudanese National Islamic Front [NIF], was taken to hospital in a coma at dawn yesterday [26 May] after being attacked by a karate black-belt Sudanese national at Ottawa airport in Canada.

Sudanese sources in the Canadian capital have told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that the incident occurred when al-Turabi was about to leave Ottawa for London after a brief visit to Canada. They added that Sudanese national Hashim Badr-al-Din (34), who has lived in Canada as a political refugee for about two years, suddenly attacked al-Turabi with two karate chops, leaving him unconscious. Al-Turabi was taken to hospital in a complete coma.

The sources said that al-Turabi was bleeding from his nose and face when he was taken to the Civic Hospital in Ottawa.

An Ottawa airport a police officer confirmed the incident to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT; he said that it was reported at 1900 local time (midnight Monday/Tuesday GMT), but declined to give any other details. He said that the Sudanese national was still being questioned.

The incident was also confirmed in a telphone statement to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT by the Sudanese charge d'affaires in Ottawa, al-Tayyib 'Ali, who said that Dr. al-Turabi was still in hospital (as of yesterday evening), but he did not say whether or not he was still in a coma.

Some Sudanese nationals living in Canada and the United States have described Hashim Badr-al-Din as a Sufist, a very religious man and well-known Sudanese sportsman who won the 1983 karate world championship and who was currently working as a sports instructor at the Islamic faculty of Ottawa University. They added that he is known for his strong opposition to the NIF, which he often opposed at conferences in Sudan and abroad.

Ahmad 'Uthman Makki—the NIF's information chief, who currently lives in the United States and who was with al-Turabi at Ottawi airport—was injured in the incident, as were others whose identities are not known. Friends of Hashim Badr-al-Din said he was in a very intense fit of fury and excitement during the attack.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has managed to contact Sumayyah 'Abd-al-Majid, wife of Hashim Badr-al-Din. She said that her husband was at the airport by chance, as he was saying goodbye to some visitors who were on their way from Ottawa to Toronto. When he saw Dr. al-Turabi and his companions, he attacked them. [passage omitted]

## Foreign Minister on Zambian Arms Link to SPLA

*MB2805102592 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0950 GMT 28 May 92*

[Text] Lusaka May 28 SAPA—Sudan Foreign Minister Ahmad Sahlul claimed on Wednesday [27 May] night that Former Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda had ferried plane-loads of arms to Sudanese rebel leader John Garang to fuel the civil war in Africa's largest country. "Efforts to persuade Kaunda to stop supporting the rebels for a peaceful settlement fell on deaf ears," he said.

Mr Sahlul said his government was comfortable with the present Zambian leaders. "We feel now we have a Zambian Government that can hear us out. That didn't exist before."

The Sudan foreign minister expressed confidence that his government's negotiations with Sudan's People's Liberation Army (SPLA) in Abuja, Nigeria, would culminate in a peaceful solution.

Dr Kaunda was approached for comment but refused, saying he wished to first read Mr Sahlul's report.

## Minister of State Returns From U.S. Visit

*EA1605060592 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 15 May 92*

[Text] Khartoum, 15 May—Dr. Ghazi Salah al-Din, state minister for presidential affairs, returned home from Washington on 13 May, ending a visit to the United States that lasted for several days, the objective of which was to explain Sudan's general policies and politico-economic developments.

In a press statement after his return, his excellency said that during the visit he held talks with the U.S. Department of State officials in addition to members of the U.S. Congress.

He pointed out that the delegation convened a number of symposia on [words indistinct] idea on U.S. policy and discussed the southern problem, peace, in addition to other issues.

His excellency went on to say that they explained Sudan's principled position of rejecting terrorism, which Islam rejects as well. He said: Those who circulate rumors to the effect that Sudan (?sponsors) terrorism should back that up with evidence and proof.

He also stressed that Sudan was (?eager) to establish friendly relations with various countries, and that Sudan's relations with Iran come under this undertaking.

adding: We do not interfere in other countries when they establish relations with other countries.

Dr. Ghazi Salah al-Din said further: We affirmed in various meetings our Islamic orientation in Sudan and that there will be no compromise on that. We also explained to them that Islam does not have borders, as understood by the West, and that the model Sudan is striving to implement is an earnest attempt to apply religious values in Sudanese society and by doing so Sudan is enriching human experience.

Dr. Ghazi Salah al-Din said further that in his meeting with the UN assistant secretary general for humanitarian affairs, he explained Sudan's official stance on human (?rights) and what Sudan has been providing during various periods to refugees in the country in terms of aid and effort. He explained the government's efforts to establish peace in the country and the rebel movement's obstinacy in the past and the inhuman actions it has perpetrated, such as bombarding cities and killing innocent people, which led to the government putting an end to these inhuman acts [word indistinct]. He said: We expect the UN secretary general to issue a statement concerning the ongoing world conflicts and to denounce the rebels' deliberate shelling of civilians.

At his meeting with the chairman of the UN Security Council's special committee on sanctions against Iraq, his excellency said: We explained that imposing sanctions against Arab countries alone robbed the UN of its credibility.

Dr. al-Din was accompanied in his visit by Messrs. Hafiz al- Shaykh al-Zaki and Angelo Beda, members of the Transitional National Assembly.

### Iraqi Minister Arrives in Khartoum 23 May

*JN2305134892 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1203 GMT 23 May 92*

[Text] Khartoum, 23 May (INA)—Hamid Yusuf Hammadi, [Iraqi] culture and information minister and President Saddam Husayn's envoy to his brother Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the Sudanese Revolutionary Command Council for National Salvation, arrived here this afternoon.

He was received at the airport by Dr. Ghazi Salah al-Din, minister of state for presidential affairs, and by Iraqi Ambassador in Khartoum 'Abd-al-Samad Hamad.

### Al-Bashir Receives Iraqi Envoy

*JN2405141792 Baghdad INA in English 1315 GMT 24 May 92*

[Text] Khartoum, May 24, INA—[Iraqi] President Saddam Husayn envoy Hamid Yusuf Hammadi minister of information and culture today conveyed a verbal message to General 'Umar Hasan al-Bashir chairman of the Revolution Command Council in Sudan calling with bilateral ties and the current Arab and international situation.

The Iraqi envoy conveyed the message in an audience with General al-Bashir held here today.

Mr. Hammadi told the INA correspondent that General al-Bashir renewed his country's firm stance supporting Iraq in countering the imperialist conspiratorial schemes.

He referred that he briefed the Sudanese president on the reconstruction drive currently in full swing in Iraq in all fields.

### Al-Bashir Briefs Council on Syrian Visit

*EA2505115092 Khartoum SUNA in English 1648 GMT 24 May 92*

[Text] Khartoum, 24 May (SUNA)—Chairman of the RCC [Revolution Command Council] and prime minister, General 'Umar al-Bashir, Sunday [24 May] briefed the Council of Ministers on the outcome of his recent visit to Syria. Gen. Bashir said that the visit has [had a] positive outcome represented in concluding of a number of economic, commercial and cultural agreements between Sudan and Syria. He added that the visit was also a good chance for the Sudanese delegation to see Syrian (?installations) in the field of river dams as (?well) as briefing on the devastation caused by Israel in the Syrian lands, a matter that exposes Israel's designs against the Arab nation.

## Tunisia

### Iraqi Information Minister Arrives for Talks

*JN2605071892 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2022 GMT 25 May 92*

[Text] Tunis, 25 May (INA)—Hamid Yusuf Hammadi, minister of culture and information and the Iraqi Government's envoy to the Tunisian Government, arrived in Tunis tonight.

During the visit, Hammadi will hold talks with a number of Tunisian officials on bilateral relations and various Arab and international issues.

Tunisian Minister of Culture Monji Bousnina, and Iraq's Ambassador in Tunis Hamid 'Ilwan al-Jaburi welcomed Hamid Hammadi.

Over the past two days, Hammadi has conveyed letters from President Saddam Husayn to the Sudanese and Mauritanian presidents.

### Prime Minister Receives Iraqi Envoy

*LD2605225192 Tunis Tunisian Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 May 92*

[Text] Prime Minister Hamed Karoui received this afternoon at the government palace in Kasabah Hamid Yusuf Hammadi, Iraq's culture and information minister and envoy of the Iraqi Government, and his Tunisian counterpart, in the presence of Foreign Minister Habib Benyahia and Iraqi Ambassador to Tunisia Hamid 'Alwan Al-Jazuli.

Hammadi announced that the meeting dealt with fraternal relations between the two countries, means of boosting them and the current Arab and international situation. He added that he had informed the prime minister of the reconstruction efforts being made by Iraq.

### Further on Prime Minister's Meeting

*JN2605180092 Baghdad INA in English 1735 GMT 26 May 92*

[Text] Tunis, May 26, INA—Tunisian Prime Minister Hamed Karoui today received here President Saddam Husayn's envoy to Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, Mr. Hamid Yusuf Hammadi, minister of culture and information.

It was reported here that the Tunisian premier discussed with Mr. Hammadi bilateral relations and the latest Arab and international developments.

The president envoy reviewed to Premier Karoui the impacts of the economic sanctions and sufferings of the Iraqi people and requirements dictated by the present stage of an Arab sincere stand and move to end the embargo on Iraq.

The meeting was attended by the Tunisian state minister for foreign affairs. The Iraqi envoy arrived here last night in the course of a tour that already took him to the Sudan and Mauritania.

## Bahrain

### Iranian Commerce Minister Arrives on 4-Day Visit

*JN2505202892 Manama WAKH in Arabic 2003 GMT 25 May 92*

[Text] Manama, 25 May (WAKH)—Iranian Minister of Commerce 'Abdol Hoseyn Vahaji, and an accompanying delegation, arrived in Manama tonight on an official four-day visit to Bahrain at the invitation of Commerce and Agriculture Minister Habib Ahmad Qasim.

The Iranian minister will hold talks with his Bahraini counterpart on bilateral cooperation and coordination in commercial and agricultural fields.

Minister Vahaji was received at the airport by the minister of commerce and agriculture; Hasan al-Nisf, under secretary of the Commerce and Agriculture Ministry; and Iranian Ambassador to Bahrain Javad Tork-Abadi.

### Amir Receives Vahaji

*JN2605112592 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1015 GMT 26 May 92*

[Excerpt] Manama, 26 May (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh 'Isa Bin-Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of the State of Bahrain, this morning received 'Abdol Hoseyn Vahaji, Iranian minister of commerce, and his delegation.

The Iranian official conveyed Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani's greetings and wishes of good health to his highness and of continued progress and prosperity for Bahrain.

His highness the amir emphasized Bahrain's desire to bolster bilateral commercial cooperation and hailed the continued growth in relations in various fields.

During the meeting, the good bilateral relations and ways of developing cooperation were reviewed, as well as issues of mutual interest.

For his part, the Iranian minister of commerce emphasized to his highness the amir Iran's desire to consolidate relations with Bahrain, especially in the commercial, economic, agricultural, and investment fields in the interest of the peoples of the two Muslim countries. [passage omitted]

### Prime Minister Meets Vahaji

*JN2605162292 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1225 GMT 26 May 92*

[Text] Manama, 26 May (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Salman Al Khalifah, the Bahraini prime minister, today received Iranian Commerce Minister 'Abdol Hoseyn Vahaji in Manama. The Iranian minister is currently on a visit to the State of Bahrain.

Discussions during the meeting dealt with the exchange of viewpoints on relations between the two friendly countries and means of enhancing them in various fields.

His highness also reviewed with the Iranian commerce minister a number of regional and international issues of mutual interest.

His highness the Bahraini prime minister voiced his satisfaction with the ever-expanding trade and economic relations between Bahrain and Iran. He also noted the importance of developing these ties of cooperation to serve the interests of both countries' people.

His highness emphasized his country's appreciation for the Iranian policies aimed at assisting in the attainment of security and stability in the region.

His highness explained that the challenges this region faces underline the need for a unified and comprehensive vision, based on the coordination of stances and constant consultations, to devote one's attention to the issues of development and construction in an atmosphere of mutual cooperation and respect.

For his part, the Iranian minister said his country wishes to promote its trade and economic links with Bahrain. He noted that his current talks in the country seek to open new vistas for cooperation that will serve the new trends in global economic relations, and to coordinate stances with respect to trade cooperation with the central Asian republics.

### Trade, Economic Ties Discussed

*LD2705110392 Tehran IRNA in English 0636 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, May 27, IRNA—Visiting Iranian Commerce Minister 'Abdol Hoseyn Vahaji conveyed a verbal message from President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani to Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa Bin-Salman Al Khalifah in Manama Tuesday.

The president's message dealt with Iran-Bahrain ties and issues of mutual interest.

The Amir voiced his country's readiness to promote mutual trade and economic ties.

Vahaji who arrived in Manama Monday night on a four-day visit reiterated Iran's interest in consolidating relations with the neighbouring countries, the Persian Gulf states in particular, on the basis of mutual interests and non-interference in domestic affairs of each other.

Vahaji said Iran is ready to expand cooperation with Bahrain and launch joint investments in economic, industrial and agricultural projects.

In another meeting with Bahraini Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Salman Al Khalifah, Vahaji conveyed a message of first vice-president Hasan Habibi and outlined Iran's political and economic policies towards the newly-independent central Asian republics.

The Bahraini prime minister said his country was ready for further cooperation with Iran.

Later in the day, the first round of talks between Vahaji and Bahraini Minister of Commerce and Agriculture Habib Ahmad al-Qasim was held.

### Delegation Leaves for Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan

*JN2705161692 Manama WAKH in English 1535 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] Manama, May 27 (GNA)—A Bahraini delegation led by Bahrain's Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Shaykh 'Isa Bin-Muhammad Al Khalifah left Manama today for Kazakhstan to be followed by a visit to Uzbekistan for a several days visit.

The Bahraini ambassador is carrying messages from H.H. [His Higness] the Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa Bin-Salman Al Khalifah to presidents of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan dealing with relations between Bahrain and the two countries.

They were seen off by the Russian Ambassador to Bahrain Mr. Anatoily Gavryuchenko

The delegation includes the deputy head of the crown prince's court Shaykh Hamad Bin-Ibrahim Al Khalifah, the advisor to the Foreign Ministry Mr. Ya'qub Yusuf, chief of promotion and financial analysis at the Ministry of Development and Industry Mr. 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Ka'b and director of protocol at the crown prince's court Mr. Ibrahim al-Musalani.

## Kuwait

### Byelarus' Kebich Arrives, Meets Prime Minister

*LD2405101292 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0930 GMT 24 May 92*

[Text] Kuwait, 24 May (KUNA)—The prime minister of Byelarus, Vyacheslav Kebich, arrived here today on a three-day official visit to the State of Kuwait. On arrival he was received by his highness the heir apparent and chairman of the Council of Ministers, Shaykh Sa'ad al-'Abdallah al-Sabah, the deputy prime minister; Foreign Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah; and a number of senior state officials.

Mr. Kebich is accompanied on this visit by a delegation that includes Foreign Minister Petr Kravchenko; Vladimir Radkevich, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations; and a number of officials of Byelarus.

### Byelarus Prime Minister Meets Amir

*LD2405131592 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1043 GMT 24 May 92*

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 24 May (KUNA)—The visiting prime minister of Byelarus, Vyacheslav Kebich, today met here with the Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad on the occasion of his visit to Kuwait, which began earlier today. Official talks began between Kuwait and Byelarus to discuss the means of bolstering friendly relations between the two countries and to lay down a firm foundation for joint cooperation in various spheres. [passage omitted]

## Oman

### Iranian Economic Minister Pays Visit to Muscat

*LD2305074192 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0630 GMT 23 May 92*

[Text] Mr. Nurbakhsh, minister of economic affairs and finance, arrived in Muscat this morning to assess bilateral economic cooperation between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Oman.

According to a Central News Unit report, an economic delegation accompanies the minister of economic affairs and finance during the visit.

### Talks Held With Iranian Minister

*JN2305180492 Muscat Radio Oman Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 23 May 92*

[Text] Qays Bin-'Abd-al-Mun'im al-Zawawi, deputy prime minister for financial and economic affairs, along with 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah, secretary general of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC], met at the al-Ghubrah guest house today with Iranian Economy and Finance Minister Dr. Mohsen Nurbakhsh. The guest arrived in the country today on an official two-day visit to the Sultanate.

The OMANI NEWS AGENCY has learned that Iran has requested GCC members to finance a project aimed at launching a railroad that will link Central Asia to Iran in an effort to facilitate the flow of commodities to and from the Islamic republics of Central Asia. Likewise, Iran has requested that the Islamic Development Bank finance this project.

An official Omani-Iranian round of talks also was held at the al-Ghubrah guest house today. The talks were chaired for Oman by Qays Bin-'Abd-al-Mun'im al-Zawawi, the deputy prime minister for financial and economic affairs. Dr. Mohsen Nurbakhsh, Iranian minister of economy and finance, chaired the talks on behalf of his country.

The OMANI NEWS AGENCY has learned that the talks focused on ways to enhance trade and exports between the two countries. They also tackled the creation of proper conditions that will enable the private sector in both countries to further activate trade. Moreover, the two sides touched on the prospects of joint investment in the fields of mining and industry. Bilateral ties and ways to enhance and promote them were also reviewed.

### Iranian Delegation Concludes Visit

*JN2405143992 Muscat Radio Oman Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 24 May 92*

[Excerpt] Dr. Mohsen Nurbakhsh, Iranian minister for economy of finance, and his accompanying delegation left the country at noon today following a two-day visit to the Sultanate. [passage omitted]

## Qatar

### Iran's Habibi Meets Prince; Comments on Abu Musa

*LD0705093592 Tehran IRNA in English 0807 GMT 7 May 92*

[Text] Doha, May 7, IRNA—Iran's visiting first Vice-President Hasan Habibi here Wednesday night [6 May] stressed Tehran has no problem in her relations with the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Speaking in a press conference, Habibi emphasized the need for protecting rights of the Islamic Republic in Abu Musa Island, in the Persian Gulf.

He said that the whole affair is a propaganda issue raised by Iraq. He regretted that certain friends of the Islamic Republic of Iran have heeded to such propaganda.

Habibi who arrived here Tuesday on a three-day official visit, said his talks with Qatari Crown Prince Shaykh Hamad Bin-Khalifah Al Thani and other officials have been "successful". He further touched on the agreements reached in the fields of education, trade, air transportation and health.

Asked to comment on the dispute among different Afghan factions, Habibi said all Afghan mojahedin groups should maintain their unity and respect rights of each other.

On exchange of the remaining war prisoners of the 1980-88 Iraq-Iran war, Habibi said keeping the Iraqi POWs in Iran does no good to Iran. He also reiterated the need for full implementation of the U.N. Resolution 598 including the paragraph on swapping POWs. On return of Iraqi planes, flown to Iran during the Persian Gulf war last year, he said the aircraft belong to the Iraqi nation and will be returned when appropriate. "At present the approvals of the Security Council does not allow us to do so."

On regional security, Habibi reiterated that it must be maintained by the regional countries. He said arrangements could be made in a way that the Muslim world becomes united and form a powerful Islamic alliance.

## United Arab Emirates

### Deputy Prime Minister Leaves for Talks in Damascus

*JN2605143192 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1305 GMT 26 May 92*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 26 May (WAKH)—Shaykh Sultan Bin-Zayid Al Nuhayyan, deputy prime minister of the United Arab Emirates [UAE], left Abu Dhabi for Syria today. The deputy prime minister will spend three days in Damascus at the invitation of Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam.

He said before leaving that he will meet with a number of senior Syrian officials for talks on ways to promote bilateral cooperation in all fields. He added that he will also exchange views with Syrian officials on current Arab developments in the light of Middle East developments.

Shaykh Al Nuhayyan said his visit to Syria is part of ongoing contacts and consultations between the two countries in the interests of the two peoples. He praised existing relations between Syria and the UAE.

## Yemen

### Statement Signed With Lithuania Establishing Ties

*JN2305191892 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 23 May 92*

[Text] A joint statement has been signed in the Lithuanian capital setting up diplomatic ties between the Republic of Yemen and the Republic of Lithuania. The statement was signed by brother Dr. 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Dali, minister of state for foreign affairs, and by Lithuania's first deputy foreign minister.

The brother Lithuanian prime minister received the brother minister of state for foreign affairs, who gave him a letter from brother Prime Minister Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas pertaining to bilateral ties and possibilities for their development. The Lithuanian prime minister said that he was glad that the two sides are establishing diplomatic relations and called the move a step on the road toward building cooperation in various areas. He congratulated our Yemeni people and leadership on the second anniversary of the Republic of Yemen.

Meanwhile, the brother minister of state met with the ministers of economic and cultural relations and education [titles as heard] to discuss with each cooperation between our country and the Republic of Lithuania in the economic, cultural, and educational spheres.

### Army Reportedly Shells City Northeast of Sanaa

*JN2705172292 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 26 May 92 p 1*

[Text] Sanaa (QNA)—Yesterday's issue of AL-MITHAQ reports that a Yemeni Army force shelled the city of

Hazm al-Jawf, northeast of Sanaa, last Friday [22 May]. As a result of the shelling, two citizens were killed and one was injured.

The paper explains that the shelling targeted the house of Hasan 'Abdallah al-'Iraqi, head of the General People's Conference branch in the city.

## Developments in Kurdistan; Government Reaction

### 'Heads' of Talabani, Barzani Demanded

*JN2305084492 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0620 GMT 23 May 92*

[Text] Baghdad, 23 May (INA)—The newspaper AL-QADISIYAH has accused Jalal Talabani, Mas'ud Barzani, and those collaborating with them of implementing a U.S. scheme aimed at turning Iraq into a divisible entity similar to Yugoslavia.

In an analysis today, the newspaper, which reflects the views of the Defense Ministry, says that those people, who claim adherence to Iraq's territorial integrity, are telling lies. The paper explains that those tampering with Iraq's soil in Kurdistan are in fact looking for resources.

The paper continues: Those agents are currently engaged in actions which they varyingly call federation, local rule, or independent administration, but all, at heart, mean a form of planned separation.

AL-QADISIYAH urges Iraqi and Arab legal experts and Islamic judges to study the files of Talabani and Barzani and to formulate a legal characterization which considers them and their followers persons who committed crimes against the Iraqi people, national soil, and human rights.

The paper accuses the two and those collaborating with them of spying on the homeland and supplying hostile parties with secret intelligence concerning the security of the country and people. The paper also accuses them of crimes involving counterfeiting and distributing counterfeit money, as well as acts aimed at sabotaging the national economy and stealing public property.

The paper says: We want the heads of those spies through a sentence that will be issued on behalf of the people, martyrs, and agggrieved families.

### Saddam Receives 'Allegiance' Telegram

*JN2305140192 Baghdad INA in English 1330 GMT 23 May 92*

[Text] Baghdad, May 23, INA—President Saddam Husayn received a telegram of allegiance from Mr Tayyib al-Barzanji, member of the Legislative Council of the Kurdistan Autonomy Area.

In his telegram Mr al-Barzanji said the Kurds would entomb the hireling gangs of Kurdistan who had committed unforgivable crimes and said that Kurdish masses were aware of the motives and hands behind the suspicious designs in the area.

The telegram further said that the Kurdish people were the victim of a brute force imposed by the Zionist and American decision, adding that those gangs were killing Kurdish scientists and patriots and other Kurdish dignitaries only for implementing the imperialist design in the region.

### 'Fierce Fighting' Predicted

*JN2405073592 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0620 GMT 24 May 92*

[Text] Baghdad, 24 May (INA)—The AL-JUMHURIYAH newspaper predicts fierce internecine fighting among the various political factions, trends, currents, and organizations in northern Iraq in the wake of the recent elections, which were supervised by the U.S. Administration and its Western allies.

In an analysis today, the paper asserts that the expected conflict among these parties is a logical outcome and a natural extension of previous developments. What is happening in Kurdistan now, the paper says, has nothing to do with democracy or national rights. It is one of the products of the new U.S. order under the guise of peace, human rights, democracy, and reform, adds the paper.

The paper notes that what is happening in northern Iraq is a play whose acts were written by the circles of U.S. and Western intelligence to strike at Iraq and to achieve vile political objectives that the military aggression had failed to achieve.

The paper voices confidence, however, that the Kurdish sons of Iraq will oppose the activity of those people who have entered into the country aboard a U.S. tank with the aim of conducting some sort of political trading to stab the homeland and its people in accordance with a new chapter of the ongoing aggression against Iraq.

The paper points out the objectives of each party and its links to other sides. This vile approach, it asserts, will push the owners of political shops into a whirlpool of conflict in which each one will seek to make gains so as to please their masters.

The paper regrets the fact that the Kurdish sons are the victims of what is now happening. The U.S. conspiracy is doomed to failure, the paper concludes, and Arab-Kurdish brotherhood will remain stronger than the designs of agents.

### PUK Arrests Imam Over Elections

*JN2405144392 Baghdad INA in English 1250 GMT 24 May 92*

[Text] Baghdad, May 24, INA—The outlawed Patriotic Union of Kurdistan [PUK] has recently arrested the imam (preacher) of Kani Qarah Mosque in Irbil, Shaykh Muhammad Mustafa because he urged Kurds to boycott the fake elections that were held in the Autonomous Region of Kurdistan.

During last Friday prayer, Shaykh Muhammad called on the Kurds to announce holy jihad to dismiss agents of imperialism who are cooperating with the US [United States] and its allies to stage a phony elections in the region.

Shaykh Muhammad was arrested by Kamal Khalid Rashid, one element of the party.

## 'Thousands' of Blank, Pro-Saddam Ballots

*JN2405200092 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 24 May 92*

[Text] Arrivals from Irbil and Dahuk Governorates affirmed today that while the vote-counting committees were doing their work in the aftermath of the so-called election process in the autonomous region, it found thousands of voter cards carrying only the phrase: Elect leader President Saddam Husayn; not to mention thousands of other cards which were left blank.

The arrivals said that a state of confusion and chaos prevailed at election centers. Accusations were traded and a heated debate ensued between members of the committees tasked with supervising the elections. They accused one another of failure to show adequate seriousness in the supervision of elections. This incident, the arrivals noted, created a fiasco which the committee members could not conceal. Consequently, these committees were forced to inform the so-called leaders of the Kurdistan Front of the incident which took everybody by surprise; namely, the appearance of voter cards carrying the name of leader President Saddam Husayn. Therefore, the front found itself compelled to issue strict and immediate instructions asking that these voter cards be collected and burned immediately, and that the incident not be publicized since this would put it in a big bind that could shame it in the eyes of the Kurdish people.

## Council To Convene in Irbil 'Next Week'

*JN2705182192 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] Political sources have stated that the Iraqi Kurdish National Council, stemming from the recent elections, will hold its first session in Irbil next week. These sources told AFP that the session will take place most probably on 1 June and that the elections of the Executive Committee, equivalent to a government, will take place immediately. A Kurdish government could be formed by mid-June and will comprise figures from the Democratic Party of Kurdistan, led by Mas'ud Barzani, and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan under Jalal Talabani.

## Barzani 'Does Not Recognize' Elections

*NC2705161992 (Clandestine) Voice of the Iraqi People in Arabic 1400 GMT 27 May 92*

[Excerpts] Mas'ud Barzani, leader of the Democratic Party of Kurdistan [DPK], has told his fighters and supporters in northern Iraq that he does not recognize the results of last week's elections. In a statement distributed to DPK branches yesterday, he said: It is regrettable that the elections were rigged and fraudulent; the only positive aspect is that they were held in a peaceful atmosphere. He said that the rigging and the irregularities that took place undermined the election's legitimacy. [passage omitted]

In his statement, Barzani described the agreement between the DPK and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan [PUK] on the election results as a compromise, adding that it was the only way to save face and not risk the fate and future of the Kurds.

The statement mentioned several points which were agreed upon with PUK Secretary General Jalal Talabani, including the reelection [as heard] of the National Assembly as soon as possible, the formation of the assembly with half the seats going to the DPK and the other half going to the PUK, and the lawful election of a Kurdish leader. The chairman of the assembly will be from the DPK; his deputy from the PUK.

The statement also said that the chairman of the Executive Council will be from the PUK and his deputy from the DPK. The other parties of the Kurdistan Front will participate in the Executive Council as well.

## Radio Denounces Turkish Cross-Border Raid

*NC2705195592 (Clandestine) Voice of the Kurdistan Revolution in Arabic 1546 GMT 27 May 92*

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] According to news agency reports, the Turkish Air Force has carried out another savage raid inside Iraqi Kurdistan, leaving five people dead and four wounded. We denounce these savage acts, which contradict the simplest principles of human rights, and call on the Turkish Government to stop the acts and focus its attention on solving its problems by diplomatic means [words indistinct] the rights of the people.

Although we do not support the course pursued by the Kurdistan Workers Party in leading the revolution in Turkey's Kurdistan, we regard the struggle of our Kurdish people in the region just [words indistinct]. It is unimaginable that at the end of the 20th century, millions of people are not allowed to speak their national language; cannot be represented in parliament; and no one cares about their culture, heritage, or history. The Kurdish area is in semi-ruin, with no industry and construction. In fact, 99 percent of our people are illiterate, and the official language is Turkish. It is taught in schools and colleges, and it must be used for communication between people. As long as the situation there remains as it is today, the struggle will continue and the train will not stop. Pressure produces explosion. The alternative for the Turkish Government and the Kurdish liberation movement there is to sit down at the negotiating table and solve their problems by peaceful means so that no more innocent blood will be shed and the Turkish Government will not spend [words indistinct] in suppressing the Kurdish people, but for construction, development, agricultural reform, and the building of hospitals and clinics in the area.

Furthermore, the Turkish Government will reap much benefit from ending the fighting in Turkey's Kurdistan by improving its image in the eyes of the international community. This could also benefit it in its efforts to enter the EEC—something on which Turkey is pinning much hope.

### Barzani 'Admittance' of Rigging 'Late'

*JN2805093892 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 28 May 92*

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 28 May (INA)—Iraqi newspapers have unanimously agreed that Mas'ud Barzani's acknowledgement that the election was a farce proves yet again that the conspiracy planned by the American-Atlantic-Zionist alliance and implemented by the humiliated agents in the north of the homeland sought to disintegrate Iraq.

In an article appearing today, AL-JUMHURIYAH says that Barzani's admittance has come late. All honorable Iraqis uncovered the secret of this farce, knew of its dimensions, and discovered the American and Zionist fingers at an early stage. [passage omitted]

The paper stresses that only those who sold themselves out to foreigners and who accepted to be a malicious and subservient tool in their hands to destroy Iraq's unity can implement conspiracies against the territorial integrity of the homeland and ally themselves with the Americans.

In an article today, AL-THAWRAH says that Mas'ud Barzani's acknowledgement of rigging, though the first of its kind, will not be the last. The game is nothing but a theatrical act staged by gangs, mercenaries, and betrayers of the unity of the homeland and the country.

The article notes that the game itself was an extreme offense to the reputation of Iraqi Kurdistan, committed by the big enemies of Iraq. However, thanks to the will of our (?kurdish people) and their adherence to the (?leadership) of great President Saddam Husayn, who has achieved for the Kurds what many neighboring countries have failed to achieve, the game was foiled.

For its part, AL-QADISIYAH says in one of its articles that those who arrogantly and plainly (?express) disdain for the basic interests of the people and the homeland will pay a heavy price. Our brave people and valiant Army, under our knight and historic leader, the paper notes, are marching ahead toward construction and protection of the homeland and its unity and independence. They will (?never twitch) at the noise of the traitors, who will receive their (?just) punishment at the hands of our courageous people. History will record in bright letters the chapters of our valiant march and historic [word indistinct]. [passage omitted]

### 3 Rebel Groups Unite on Opposition Charter

*NC2705160792 (Clandestine) Voice of the Iraqi People in Arabic 1400 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] Three Iraqi opposition movements have signed a joint National Action Charter under which a joint higher political command will be formed as a nucleus of an effective Iraqi opposition front. The charter includes a formula seeking full political cooperation between the three movements both inside and outside Iraq to strengthen the Iraqi people's struggle to overthrow the dictatorial regime and establish a constitutional and democratic regime which believes in political pluralism, peaceful exercise of power, and respect for human rights, as stipulated in the UN Charter.

The Charter stresses the need for the Kurds in northern Iraq to enjoy real autonomy and for the Turkomans to enjoy their legitimate national rights within an independent Iraqi entity and a democratic regime.

The charter, which was released in Ankara yesterday, was signed by Salah 'Umar al-'Ali, from the Iraqi National Democratic Accord; 'Ali al-Sinjari, from the Kurdistan Democratic Union; and Muzaffar Arslan, from the Iraqi Turkomani National Party.

The charter leaves the door open for all Iraqi national opposition movements and parties to sign it to set up a front comprising all opposition forces, parties, groups, and personalities.

### Minister Protests U-2 'Violations' To U.N.

*JN2305091692 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0845 GMT 23 May 92*

[Text] New York, 23 May (INA)—Iraq has once again condemned the United States' violation of Iraqi airspace under the pretext of conducting aerial surveys for the UN special committee.

INA's correspondent in New York has reported that Foreign Minister Ahmad Husayn has sent a letter to UN Secretary General Butrus Ghali in which he said a U.S. U-2 plane, bearing the marking UN T-1, crossed the border with Saudi Arabia on 15 May and flew over central Iraq, particularly over Baghdad. He pointed out that the plane flew for more than three hours over Iraqi territory.

The letter said the same plane violated the Iraqi airspace once again on Sunday, 17 May, and flew over extensive areas in north, central, and southern Iraq for more than three and a half hours and then left in the direction of Saudi Arabia.

The foreign minister added that the U.S. violation was repeated once again on 20 May. The plane flew for three hours over Iraqi territory and then left in the direction of Saudi Arabia.

The letter stressed Iraq's constant argument that the plane is being used for purposes other than those set out by the UN Security Council. The letter further said that these three new violations have raised to 52 the number of unjustifiable violations by this plane.

## U.S. Airspace 'Violations' Alleged

*JN2405141492 Baghdad INA in English 1310 GMT 24 May 92*

[Text] New York, May 24, INA—Iraq has once again protested to the United Nations of further violations to its airspace by the U.S. warplanes for the purpose of provocative surveillance.

A memorandum by the Iraqi delegate to the U.N. Chief Butrus Ghali said that the American planes carried out a total of 144 air sorties over the period from May 13 to 20 instant.

The memorandum added that the U.S. planes flew over the northern areas of Dahuk, Irbil, Mosul, Tall 'Afar, al-'Amadiyah, 'Ayn Zalah and Rawanduz.

## UN Official Reaffirms Destruction of Missiles

*JN2505171492 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 24 May 92 p 1*

["Monitoring Service" report]

[Text] The chief of a UN inspection team has admitted that the information Iraq provided to the United Nations regarding ballistic missiles destroyed in March was true and accurate.

In a statement on the eve of his departure from Baghdad with a delegation comprising 17 international experts, Tom Brock, who is an American, added that Iraq has indeed destroyed its self-propelled missiles and the equipment used in the manufacture of these missiles.

He described his visit to Baghdad as positive, saying: We have accomplished a very good task and we have achieved our objective.

Brock said that the Iraqi officials are now preparing a full list of the weapons in their possession. He added that parts of this list are already ready, and some other parts are still being prepared.

Some experts said that they are confident that Iraq has given accurate information about the weapons the United Nations asked for, and that it has indeed destroyed them.

## Opposition Alleges UN 'Cooperation' With Saddam

*NC2605154292 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1325 GMT 26 May 92*

[Text] Despite the United Nations' alleged opposition to the regime led by the enemy of humanity and the Iraqi people, secret cooperation and coordination continues between the tyrant's regime and this international organization, run by global arrogance circles.

Saddam's air force planes are continuing to brutally bombard residential areas in the southern marshlands, despite UN observers' presence in these areas. They have not lifted a finger against the ugly crimes perpetrated by Saddam's forces against humanity and the struggling Iraqi people.

## ICRC Given 'Unhindered Access' To Find Kuwaitis

*JN2505143592 Baghdad INA in English 1345 GMT 25 May 92*

[Text] Baghdad, May 25, INA—Iraq has granted the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) unhindered access to any spot in the country to find people Kuwait says are still held by Iraq.

In statements published by THE BAGHDAD OBSERVER today, Dr. Akram al-Witri, director-general of the Foreign Ministry's Leagl Department said Iraq has no objection to letting ICRC officials search for those allegedly reported missing by Kuwait.

"We are ready to give them immediate access, not only to prisons or detention camps but to any place in Iraq, without any restrictions or conditions on our part," he said.

Dr. al-Witri said more than 4,000 people carrying Kuwaiti passports had reported to ICRC offices in Baghdad. "Of these Kuwait has only accepted 400". He said Kuwait had given Iraq seven different and contradictory lists since the war.

"The first contained names of 11,000 people, then it shrank to 9,000 and they kept squeezing it until they finally settled for 850 names," he said.

The ICRC published the final list in government newspapers in March and appealed for information on the whereabouts of 850 people the Kuwait Government claimed had been missing in Iraq since August 2, 1990.

Dr. al-Witri disputed Kuwait's final list. He said that after thorough analysis with ICRC officials it was found that many names were repeated and many others had already been handed over to Kuwait" [no opening quotation mark as received].

ICRC officials say more than 6,000 Kuwaitis have been repatriated, including 4,020 soldiers and 2,150 civilians.

"Iraq wants the issue to be separated from politics and treated in line with international norms and Geneva Convention," al-Witri said.

Dr. al-Witri said the list of Iraqis reported missing in Kuwait amounted to 60,000 people. "We have informed the ICRC of that and provided the necessary documentation."

He denied Kuwaiti claims that Iraq still held Kuwaiti prisoners. "We have no more Kuwaitis detained in Iraq. Those living here are free. Kuwaiti authorities do not accept them."

Iraq, he said, wanted to close the file on missing Kuwaitis so that "there will be no more pretexts to continue with the sanctions."

### Saddam Receives Yemeni Envoy, Salih Message

*JN2705180992 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1747 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] Baghdad, 27 May (INA)—President Saddam Husayn today received a written message from Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

The message, delivered to President Saddam Husayn by Muhammad Ahman Sulayman, Yemeni minister of housing and urban planning and President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih's envoy, deals with ways of promoting the already strong brotherly relations between Iraq and Yemen, the current Arab situation, and international issues of mutual concern.

During the meeting, Sulayman conveyed President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih's greetings to his brother President Saddam Husayn, as well as his best wishes to the Iraqi people and their leadership.

### Yemeni Envoy on U.S. 'Domination' of UN

*JN2805100692 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0815 GMT 28 May 92*

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 28 May (INA)—Muhammad Ahmad Sulayman, Yemeni minister of housing and President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih's envoy, has said that he does not think the UN Security Council will make a decision to lift the blockade imposed on Iraq because of the U.S. domination over the Council.

In an interview with AL-JUMHURIYAH published today, Sulayman asserted that all efforts by the United States to strike at Iraqi capabilities and to topple its nationalist regime have failed. [passage omitted]

Commenting on the recent difficulties facing Yemen which affect its stability and the utilization of its resources, Muhammad Ahmad Sulayman said: No one can consider the Yemeni territory his own, and no one can remove us from our historic territory. No one can cancel the history of Yemen under false pretexts or based on the feeling that there is someone in this world to protect him. No one can deprive us of our historic rights or distort history.

### Foreign Minister, Yemeni Envoy Discuss Ties

*JN2705132092 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1208 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] Baghdad, 27 May (INA)—Foreign Minister Ahmad Husayn today received Muhammad Ahmad Sulayman, Yemeni minister of housing and urban planning.

The foreign minister expressed appreciation for the positions of Yemen—both its government and people—toward Iraq's people, who are confronting imperialist plans to harm Iraq's strength, dignity, and sovereignty through the unjust blockade imposed on the Iraqi people, as well as attempts to interfere in Iraq's domestic affairs.

Muhammad Ahmad Sulayman stressed Yemen's support for the Iraqi people against the unjust economic blockade, which is no longer justified.

He also praised the efforts of the zealous Iraqis' to reconstruct what was destroyed by the barbaric 30-state aggression.

During the meeting, the officials also discussed the distinguished brotherly bilateral relations and ways of promoting them in all areas.

### Popular Forces Official Condemns Israeli Raids

*JN2705120492 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0950 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] Baghdad, 27 May (INA)—Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, secretary general of the Arab Popular Forces Conference, has strongly condemned the continued Zionist air raids on southern Lebanon.

In a statement to INA, Hammudi held the United States primarily responsible for the continued Zionist attacks on fraternal Lebanon and violation of its national sovereignty as an independent UN member state. This is because of its unlimited support for its strategic ally in Tel Aviv and failure to exercise even minimum pressure to deter the racist Zionist arrogance.

The secretary general of the Arab Popular Forces Conference urged the international community to condemn the killing and terrorizing of innocent citizens as Zionist crimes constituting a flagrant violation of human rights and of all international humanitarian conventions.

Sa'd Qasim Hammudi hailed the valiant Lebanese resistance and its escalating confrontation of the Zionist occupation of southern Lebanon and the occupation agents. He stressed the legitimacy of popular struggle against invaders until the Lebanese soil is cleared of their filth.

On behalf of all vanguard forces of Arabism, the secretary general of the Arab Popular Forces Conference reiterated solidarity with and support for the fraternal Lebanese people in their endeavor to consolidate their independence, unity, and national sovereignty.

### Urges Arab States To Release Assets

*JN2705194592 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 26 May 92 pp 1, 2*

[By Jihad Zayir]

[Text] Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, secretary general of the Arab Popular Forces Conference, has asserted that the unjust blockade imposed on Iraq since Resolution 661 was issued on 6 August 1990, has deprived 18 million Iraqis of the most basic needs of decent living. Hammudi urged the UN secretary general and the Security Council members to lift or ease the blockade in light of Iraq's compliance with the Security Council's resolutions, especially Resolution 687.

In a statement to AL-JUMHURIYAH on the eve of the sanctions' review, which the Security Council is making every 60 days and which will begin on Thursday 28 May, Hammudi said that the scarcity of foodstuffs, baby milk, and medicine is threatening a serious human disaster in violation of all heavenly laws, temporal values, and charters. He called on 10 Arab regimes to unfreeze Iraqi assets deposited in their banks to enable the Iraqi people to buy food, medicine, and necessary civilian equipment, following the model of the British and Canadian Governments, which have recently released frozen Iraqi assets to provide food and medicine for the Iraqi people.

The Arab Popular Forces secretary general added that the Arab masses and their vanguard forces will not accept some Arab rulers' excuses for sticking to the so-called resolutions of international legitimacy, especially since the chairman of the committee, set up by the Security Council under Resolution 661, has circulated two letters to the organization's member states on 16 and 20 May 1991 allowing the release of these assets. He said the two letters stipulate the following: (If your government decides, in accordance with national policy and national regulations and legislations, to unfreeze Iraqi assets, referred to in Paragraph 20 of Resolution 687, such a measure will not violate relevant Security Council resolutions, and Iraq can use any of its unfrozen assets to buy medicine and medical equipment and to finance foodstuffs and civilian needs for materials and appliances defined in the UN secretary general's report dated 20 March 1991, as well as any other human needs deemed necessary by that committee).

## Green Party 'Slammed' Greenpeace on Oil Tax

*JN2405145392 Baghdad INA in English 1300 GMT 24 May 92*

[Text] Baghdad, May 24, INA—The Iraqi environment activists have slammed the stance of the European Green Peace activists favouriting [as received] the United States policy towards protection the environment in the world.

Mr. Mazhar 'Arif [name as received] chairman of the Iraq Green Party (under establishment) expressed surprise over a call by the European green deputies to impose tax on each raw oil barrel on the plea of employing it in the field of environment protection.

In an interview with BABIL paper of Baghdad, Mr. 'Arif said that those deputies are well aware that the United States and the major industrial nations are responsible for threatening safety of the environment, not the oil exporting countries.

He said that this European proposal presented a yeoman's service to the U.S. design that aims at driving down OPEC prices and as a severe blow to the plans and programs of the oil producing developing countries which their revenues suffered from erosion by the virtue of deviate policies of the oil cartels.

Mr. 'Arif also criticised ignorance of the European green activists of the unjust economic blockade imposed on Iraq and the block of exporting its oil and Washington policies that aim at controlling over oil fields.

## West 'Gambling' on Change Through Armed Forces

*NC2505175292 (Clandestine) Voice of the Kurdistan Revolution Radio in Arabic 1540 GMT 25 May 92*

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] Dear listeners, it seems the West is involved with the regime in Iraq, but not because it cannot overthrow it and eliminate its leaders; the West is concerned about Iraq's political future, which it regards as somewhat vague.

The West wants to get rid of the regime, but not at any price. It did not send troops to the Gulf to install a popular regime which would take over from the current regime after its overthrow. The West's primary concern was to weaken the Iraqi Army and kick it out of Kuwait. It wants to change the situation in Iraq, but in its own way. The West looked for alternatives to the Shiite opposition, which is considered the major opposition to the regime, especially in the south.

But this opposition established its presence only because there were no popular bases for secular opposition. Events after the uprising proved that the parties declaring themselves were simply groups of individuals representing only themselves and with no authority inside Iraq. They are merely names for political and military personalities who could not establish their presence in the Iraqi arena.

The strange thing is that these people want nothing more than (?low-level) positions in the government if and when the regime is overthrown. They are negotiating marginal issues rather than working on changing the homeland and freeing it from the ruling family's grip.

The basic resistance is represented in the Kurdish movement which proved its strong presence in Kurdistan. The uprising was crowned by the liberation of the heroic city of Karkuk for the first time. Then, the movement led the Kurdish masses to the point of establishing a Kurdistan national council.

The second resistance is that of the Shiites, which proved its strong presence in the south and in the capital, Baghdad. The Shiites who live in the south [words indistinct], but the (?fragments) of their leadership and their contacts with neighboring countries were the major reason for striking them and, afterward, taking revenge on them, as we saw.

One major and important opposition has not been considered—the Army, commanded by the lower ranks of officers, who [words indistinct], perform the necessary salvation activities, and save the Iraqi people from their affliction and situation.

It seems the West is gambling on change in Iraq through the Armed Forces, coupled with popular participation to install a government accepted by all sides and which demonstrates its ability to nobly solve all problems.

### Saudi Arabia Returnees Pledge Loyalty to Saddam

*JN2605165892 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 25 May 92 pp 1, 2*

[By As'ad Jabir]

[Excerpt] Al-Qadisiyah—Citizens returning from Saudi Arabia have praised President Saddam Husayn's good gesture of pardoning the deceived ones. They stressed that they are prepared to give up their lives in defense of Iraq.

The returnees met with al-Qadisiyah Governor Ahmad 'Abdallah Salih and exposed the inhuman practices used by Saudi authorities against them. [passage omitted]

### Foreign Cigarettes Said To Contain 'Viruses'

*JN2305092792 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0736 GMT 23 May 92*

[Text] Baghdad, 23 May (INA)—An Iraqi scientific research has concluded that all brands of foreign cigarettes available on the Iraqi market carry viruses which destroy farms and affect their productivity.

The research, the details of which were published by AL-QADISIYAH newspaper today, indicates that these viruses affect tomato, potato, and tobacco farms. The research explains that the viruses are communicated through the hands and clothes of farmers who smoke, or directly while the farmers smoke in their fields.

The research affirms that it has been proved that the viruses have affected the tomato crop, especially in greenhouses, in the al-Zubayr and Safwan areas in southern Iraq, where the infection rate has amounted to 33 percent.

### Saddam Husayn Chairs Meeting of RCC Officials

*JN2605144992 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 26 May 92*

[Text] Leader President Saddam Husayn has chaired a meeting of 'Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council [RCC], and RCC members Vice President Taha Yasin Ramadan, Prime Minister Muhammad Hamzah al-Zubaydi, and Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz. The meeting was also attended by Hatim Hamdan al-'Azzawi, head of the Presidential Office.

### Chairs Army Commanders' Meeting 27 May

*JN2705123592 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1215 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] Baghdad, 27 May (INA)—President Saddam Husayn today chaired a meeting of a number of commanders of the Armed Forces's units.

Staff General 'Ali Hasan al-Majid, member of the Revolution Command Council and defense minister, and Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Iyad Futayyif al-Rawi attended the meeting.

### Officials, Saddam's Family Liquidating Property

*JN2505193892 (Clandestine) Kurdistan Voice of Unification in Arabic 1720 GMT 25 May 92*

[Text] Latest reports from Baghdad, Salah al-Din, and Tikrit indicate that a large number of officials, influential people from among the ruling authorities, and relatives of and those close to the Iraqi president's family have begun liquidating their property and estates—all of which were stolen from the helpless Iraqi people—after sensing that the regime is about to fall and collapse. We have proof of what we are saying. A group of people from Tikrit, including Ghalib al-Hammud and his brother 'Abdallah al-Hammud of the al-Bayjat tribe, both of whom reside in the city of Tikrit, have sold and liquidated their property, including the newest models of luxurious cars stolen from Kuwait, sheep, gazelles, fountains, and houses.

The same was also done by Mahir 'Abd-al-Rashid, brother-in-law of Iraqi president's son Qusayy, official in charge of the intelligence organ and the special security forces. He sold 1,600 head of cattle and sheep, as well as a fountain. He converted his proceeds into hard currency that will be easy to carry when the time comes. The day of punishment is near, God willing. Only then, they will not be able to save even their own lives.

## Reports on Rebuilding, Strategic Projects Undertaken

### 'All' Resources Mobilized in Water Project

*JN2505200992 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 25 May 92*

[Excerpt] Pursuant to leader President Saddam Husayn's orders, the Military Industrialization Organization [MIO] has mobilized all its material and human resources to embark on the execution of the al-Basrah water project, which will transport fresh water from the al-Gharraf river to the city of al-Basrah. Staff Lieutenant General Husayn Kamil Hasan, adviser to the president of the republic and MIO supervisor, said that the poor quality of drinking water in the city of al-Basrah, and citizens' increasing suffering as a result, have been given great attention by leader Saddam Husayn. He said his excellency stressed the need for supplying the people of al-Basrah with fresh drinking water.

Lt. Gen. Hasan told an INA correspondent that the project, which the MIO mujahidin have insisted on naming the Project of Leader's Faithfulness, is in appreciation of the heroic and faithful role played by the sons of al-Basrah in the defense of great Iraq. He said the giant project will be living testimony of the Iraqis' ability and unlimited creativity, and a concrete symbol of their steadfastness and challenge in the face of the forces of tyranny and aggression and the unjust blockade.

He explained that the project, effectively, consists of several major components including the building of an open, lined, 212 km- long canal that will carry water from the right side of the al- Gharraf river, in Nazim al-Bad'ah, to northwestern al-Basrah. The project also involves a 17 km-long network of 1,600 mm pipelines in some special areas. [passage omitted]

### 104 Out of 133 Bridges Rebuilt

*JN2705140592 Baghdad INA in English 1300 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] Baghdad, May 27, INA—Minister of Housing and Construction Mahmud Dhiyab al-Ahmad said some 104 out of 133 bridges damaged by U.S. and allied air strikes during the military aggression against Iraq have been reconstructed.

Speaking during a session held by the National Assembly, Mr. al-Ahmad said that reconstruction work on these bridges was done in cooperation with the staff of the Military Industry Commission and Ministry of Industry and Minerals, adding that work on the remaining 29 bridges is hoped to be completed during the first half [of] the coming year.

The minister added that the enemy had deliberately targeted Iraq's network of highways, especially those to the south of al-Nasiriyah Province and the highway linking Iraq with Jordan, indicating that the ministry's staff have so far completed most of the work on the highways.

Furthermore, the ministry has reconstructed some 176 installations damaged by allied air and missile attacks during the war, among which are telecommunications facilities and television and broadcasting stations in addition to a large number of industrial facilities, Mr. al-Ahmad said.

As regards housing units, the minister said that the ministry is planning to build some 3.5 million units by the year 2000, adding that work on the plan was suspended due to the conditions created by the economic sanctions and shortages of raw materials.

The minister indicated that the ministry has so far executed some one million units.

The minister reviewed the ministry's plan to maintain and build some 40,000 kilometres of rural roads throughout the country, saying that distinguished efforts are currently exerted to execute 500 kilometres of roads in rural areas.

At the outset of the session, head of the National Assembly's Public Services and People's Affairs Committee reviewed a report on 19 projects executed by the Ministry of Housing and Construction.

Among them are reconstruction projects of al-Jumhuriyah, al-Karamah and the first and second al-'Amarah bridges, al-Qurnah concrete bridge and al-Madinah, [name indistinct], Shanfiya, al- Masab al-A'am, Abu Skhair [names indistict], al-Kifl and al-Hashimiyah bridges and al-Ramadi highway.

### 'Strategic Industrial Projects' Announced

*JN2705173092 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 27 May 92*

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 27 May (INA)—Staff Lieutenant General Husayn Kamil Hasan, adviser to the president of the Republic and supervisor of the Military Industrialization Organization, today inaugurated three [as received] strategic industrial projects manufacturing civilian and industrial equipment to break the economic blockade imposed on Iraq.

These projects are: An electrical furnace project for agricultural and industrial purposes, an air conditioning engines project, a vacuum cleaners project, and an air coolers project.

The president's adviser also announced that Iraq was manufacturing a 160-horsepower Iraqi agricultural tractor for large areas and for hauling heavy machinery, as well as another tractor, smaller than the al-Nida' tractor, to be used for gardening. [passage omitted]

### Relief Fund Begins Compensation for War Damage

*JN2505144792 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 23 May 92 p 1*

[By Sa'di al-Sab']

[Text] Relief committees in Baghdad and the other governorates have begun paying 1992 compensation to people hurt by the 30-state aggression and the chapter of treachery and treason, after the Central Commission for Relief Funds approved the relief committees' decisions in the governorates.

A responsible source at the Central Commission for Relief Funds told AL-JUMHURIYAH that any citizen entitled to compensation can object to any decision by the Central Commission for Relief Funds concerning the damage assessment of his property. He added that any citizen whose only house was demolished, whose husband or wife was killed, or whose disability rate has reached 60 percent or more, is entitled to compensation.

The responsible source urged citizens meeting any of these conditions, and who have yet to claim compensation, to inform the relief committees of their losses so that their cases can be referred to the commission for approval.

It is worth noting that leader President Saddam Husayn has ordered that 30 million dinars be granted to the relief fund to help pay 1992 compensation.

### 150 Arrested, 7 Wounded in Bat Yam Unrest

*TA2805045192 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 28 May 92*

[Text] Police arrested 150 people in Bat Yam overnight during another night of anti-Arab demonstrations and unrest. Police officials said a number of leading agitators arrested turned out to be criminals for whom the police have been searching for a long time. Some 3,000 people remained on the streets of Bat Yam until the early hours of the morning. There were a number of attacks on police. Seven injured people were taken to Wolfson Hospital for treatment. In the early hours of this morning, tires were set alight on some streets.

Meanwhile, police have given permission for a rally in the town later today to be addressed by Ze'ev Rapp, the father of Helena Rapp, who was murdered by a Gaza Strip Arab on Sunday.

### Faysal al-Husayni Deplores Killing

*TA2705164592 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1605 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] Faysal al-Husayni this afternoon sharply denounced the murder of the young girl Helena Rapp. Al-Husayni told a gathering at the al-Hakawati theater in East Jerusalem that the murder of innocent civilians must be sharply condemned. He stressed that as a Palestinian he must denounce such a dastardly act just as he would like the world to condemn the murder of innocent Palestinians. Our correspondent Moti Amir adds that most of the participants at the gathering agreed with al-Husayni and called for the murder of Israeli civilians to stop.

## Further on Reaction to Kfar Darom Killing

### Five Israelis Detained

*TA2705154992 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1500 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] Labor has joined those who condemn the Kfar Darom murder. Labor Chairman Yitzhaq Rabin believes it is necessary to act vigorously against terror but also to work at the same time for a political solution. Our correspondent Nisim Qeynan reports that Rabin said that he relies on the defense establishment's judgment on the continued closure of the Gaza Strip.

This afternoon the security forces served a demolition order on the family members of Muhammad Ibrahim Ahmad, the Dayr al-Balah resident who murdered Rabbi Shim'on Biran at Kfar Darom this morning. The murderer's family can appeal the order within the next 24 hours. A riot erupted at the place because the family members believed the soldiers intended to tear it down.

Our correspondent Ron Nesi'el reports that upon the instruction of Matan Vilna'i, the commander of the Southern Command, six rows of trees in the orchard from which Rabbi Biran's murderer emerged are now being uprooted.

Our correspondent Moti Amir says that a police report on settlers' rioting following the Kfar Darom murder indicates that they beat two Arabs, overturned cars belonging to local Arabs and to UNRWA [UN Relief and Works Agency], and inflicted damage on property, including burning hothouses and farming land in the Dayr al-Balah area. Five Israelis were detained.

### Settlers Erect Trailers, Uproot Trees

*TA2705202392 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 2000 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] A 10-year-old child, Nidal al-Lidawi of Rafah, was critically wounded by IDF [Israel Defense Forces] fire this evening in the course of the dispersal of disturbances and was evacuated to Tel Hashomer Hospital for treatment. Gaza residents told our correspondent Moti Amir that another six residents were slightly wounded this evening during riots in the Gaza Strip: three from the al-Shati' refugee camp, two from the al-Burayj refugee camp, and one from Gaza's al-Shaykh Radwan neighborhood.

Dayr al-Balah residents claim that settlers this evening continued the IDF soldiers' action and uprooted additional trees in the orchard from which the terrorist who murdered Rabbi Biran emerged.

Our correspondent Mikha'el Tuchfeld reports that hundreds of settlers are currently gathered at the junction where Rabbi Biran was murdered this morning. Three trailers have been brought to the site over the last few hours, and the settlers claim that these are intended to expand Kfar Darom's Bible and Land Institute. They also announced they would remain at the site until the government quashes terror. The IDF soldiers present at the site have not intervened as yet.

### Army Removes Trailers; Gen Vilna'i Comments

*TA2805052492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 28 May 82*

[Text] Hundreds of Jewish settlers gathered last night close to the Gaza Strip settlement of Kfar Darom, where Rabbi Shim'on Biran was stabbed to death yesterday. Overnight, the Army removed three mobile homes that the settlers had brought to the site.

Security forces last night demolished the home of the murderer of Rabbi Biran in the Dayr al-Balah refugee camp. The murderer, Ahmad Ibrahim Ahmad, revealed under questioning that he is related to one of the three gunmen killed in Sunday's clash with security forces in the Sabra neighborhood of Gaza. [passage omitted]

The head of the Army's Southern Command, Major General Matan Vilna'i, denies the situation in the Gaza Strip has gotten out of control. Vilna'i was at the funeral of Rabbi Shim'on Biran, stabbed to death yesterday morning in the Gaza Strip. He spoke to reporter Alan Ben-'Ami:

[Begin recording] [Ben-'Ami] Gen. Vilna'i, three Israelis killed by Arabs from Gaza this week: Is the situation getting out of control?

[Vilna'i] The situation is not going to be out of control. It's under control, but we have to face several problems, some of them very—I'll say it—very difficult problems of Arab Palestinians that decided that they must kill a Jewish guy, an Israeli—and we know nothing about them, and they are getting to a knife and doing the job. On the other side, there are several groups of armed terrorists that we have to deal with them, too. It's not the same problem; it's two faces of the same problem.

We have to remember that last week, the previous Sunday, we killed, after a very short and decisive battle, three terrorists that were in charge of many terrorist acts all over the area, and I am sure that it will calm the area—not immediately, but in the long run. But, at the same time, we have to remember that we have to deal with 700,000 Palestinians that hate us, and radical Islam is getting its hands on the population, basically in the southern part of the area, of the Strip, and it's not an easy problem to solve.

[Ben-'Ami] After the news of Rabbi Biran's death, some settlers went on a rampage; they began to destroy Arab property. Do you see this as a situation you are going to have to face over the next days of acts of vengeance by settlers in this area?

[Vilna'i] We have to remember that in the first moments, in the first hours, the blood is on the ground and the blood in the people is very hot, and people are doing things not according to the law. We are not going to permit anyone doing something not according to the law, and I hope that it will be stopped. I have to emphasize that there were several cases, but not too much. [end recording]

### Rabbi Eliyahu, Rabin React

*TA2705150992 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1200 GMT 27 may 92*

[Text] We have reactions to the murder of the Kfar Darom rabbi this morning. Chief Rabbi Mordekhay Eliyahu called on the government to prevent in any way possible the murder of Jews. He called on the public to participate in Rabbi Shim'on Biran's funeral. The chief rabbi told our correspondent Mikha'el Tuchfeld that he knew Rabbi Biran as a very wise student of the Halaka and Torah and welcomed his activity to set up the Bible Institute in Gush Qatif.

The Likud said that the tough-minded policy should be continued and that tough traffic restrictions must be imposed on the territories Arabs when they enter Israel.

Labor Chairman Yitzhaq Rabin said that when the pain and anger over the latest murders pass there will be no alternative to a consistent and ongoing policy against the phenomenon of stabbings but that at the same time we must strive unceasingly to reach a political solution.

Tzomet Knesset Member Refa'el Eytan believes that in such incidents we have to deport the family of the murderer within hours and with the same speed demolish his home, confiscate his property, and only then put him on trial.

The National Religious Party [NRP] said that all the instigators must be deported today. The NRP claims that the addresses are known to the security services, especially the addresses of those who were released in the deal with the Jibril organization. It also said that this must be done quickly since the public is losing patience.

### 'Harsh Preventive Measures' Urged

*TA2705122992 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1100 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] The Council of Jewish Settlements in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip is demanding that the government take harsh measures to prevent more acts of murder and not to make do with reaction after a murder has already been perpetrated. Our correspondent Mikha'el Tuchfeld reports that the council is demanding that deportations be implemented against the eight Arabs whose expulsion has been approved by the High Court of Justice.

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1000 GMT on 27 May reports that "Peace Now has denounced the Kfar Darom murder and said the government's settlement policy is increasing friction and hostility with the Palestinians. The only way to curtail the violence is to separate from the Palestinians through a peace accord, the movement said."]

### East Jerusalem Paper Closed for Fatah Links

*TA2805082492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1400 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] The license of AL-FATA AL-'ARABI, a paper issued in East Jerusalem, has been withdrawn. Our correspondent Gil Litman reports that the Interior Ministry's Jerusalem District commissioner decided to close the paper after learning that the paper and its editor have extensive ties with the Fatah organization. The paper 'ABIR, edited by the same person, was closed down about a year ago for the same reasons.

### Hamas-Fatah Clash Reported in Qalqilyah

*TA2805103492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000 GMT 28 May 92*

[Text] Three soldiers were lightly injured in Nabulus this morning when a fragmentation grenade was thrown at an

Army lookout post in the casbah market area. Reporter Mark Weiss says the Army closed off the area and carried out searches.

Five residents of Qalqilyah were lightly injured last night when rival supporters of Fatah and Hamas [Islamic Resistance Front] threw bottles and stones at each other. The trouble started after Hamas supporters stopped a Fatah member. Hamas sympathizers then attacked a Fatah rally in the town.

## 100,000 Jews Leave Jerusalem in 10-Year Period

*TA2405154492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew*
*1500 GMT 24 May 92*

[Text] Over the past decade, some 100,000 Jewish residents of Jerusalem have left the city. This appears in data published today in the Jerusalem Statistic Yearbook. Our economic affairs correspondent Menahem Friedman reports that the data further indicates that most of those who left Jerusalem are more educated and economically stable. They left the city because they sought an improvement of the quality of life and because they could not find appropriate jobs in Jerusalem.

Another phenomenon noted is the move of Jerusalem residents to its satellite cities, mainly beyond the Green Line, where housing is cheaper.

## Spread of AIDS Virus Doubles From 1990

*TA2705163092 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew*
*27 May 92 p 10*

[ITIM report]

[Excerpt] The speed with which the AIDS virus is spreading in Israel has doubled. That is the conclusion from data gathered over the first five months of 1992, compared to the first half of 1990. This was reported yesterday at a gathering of the top officials in the Negev of the Histadrut sick fund at the Soroka Medical Center in Beersheba.

Yinon Shenkar, coordinator of the AIDS prevention project, provided the gathering with data on the spread of the virus in Israel. He said that 21 people carrying the AIDS virus were reported in the past month, and since the start of the year, 77 new cases were reported, 16 of them women. That is double the number of AIDS virus carriers reported in the first six months of 1991. [passage omitted]

## Source—No Danger of All-Out War With Syria

*TA2705131992 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew*
*27 May 92 p 3*

[Report by Aharon Klein, Menahem Horowitz]

[Excerpts] "Israel does not plan to start an all-out war against Syria and there is no danger that such a war will break out. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] will, nevertheless, continue to attack targets even if they are situated in territory under Syrian control," a senior source in the General Staff said yesterday. He said that what we are witnessing is a war of declarations but that it appears that both sides know the limits. The senior source added that Israel does not have information about Syrian Army reinforcements along the border with Lebanon or with Israel. The IDF has also not beefed up its forces. [passage omitted]

Senior sources in the Northern Command yesterday justified the continuation of the initiative to hit Hizballah targets. They said that such actions must continue.

Settlements along the northern border continue to be on the alert against Katyusha shellings for fear that the terrorists will try to respond by firing at targets in the Galilee. The residents continue to sleep in shelters.

## Levi—Key to Lebanon Peace 'in Syrian Hands'

*TA2705151392 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew*
*1400 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] Foreign Minister David Levi says the key to quiet in Lebanon is in Syrian hands. Syria must act quickly to restrain the Hizballah members; otherwise, an uncontrollable conflagration may break out in Lebanon. The foreign minister spoke during an interview with a French television network [not further specified]. He emphasized that Israel does not want a war with Syria and that everything should be done to prevent possible hostilities.

## Lubrani Comments on Attacks Inside Lebanon

*TA2705181092 Jerusalem Israel Television Network*
*in Arabic 1630 GMT 27 May 92*

[Address by Uri Lubrani, coordinator of government activities in Lebanon, to economic club members in the Moriah Jerusalem Hotel in Jerusalem on 27 May—recorded in Hebrew with Arabic subtitles; broadcast in progress]

[Text]...a mass exit by villagers—these are people who did not want to remain in the area if and when we attacked. We launched a localized attack on Hizballah targets only. I can promise you that those who know this, those who live there, those who are in the area, are well familiar and impressed with the fashion in which the operation is carried out, its precision, and the consideration shown the entire population. I think we can be proud of this. Things do not always go smoothly, innocent people get killed on occasion, and we all regret this, but our surgical actions were aimed only at striking at those who act against us.

Up to the moment of my exit from Tel Aviv, an hour and a half ago, quiet prevailed. This does not mean that the quiet will last, but our hope is that our rationed actions will be received as a signal, as a reminder that we mean business [preceding three words in English], although we do not want to provoke and escalate the situation to the point of war. I think that this morning's remarks by Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', that Syria does not want a confrontation or a war, are tantamount to a signal that they understand that we understand that they understand.

I want you to know that both the Syrians and we know—and we know that they know—that every Hizballah member who amounts to anything must go through at least two Syrian roadblocks on the way to the south. Every weapon reaching the south must cross Syrian roadblocks. Every Hizballah activist must go through Syrian roadblocks. If Syria so wanted, it could have stopped this very easily. Syria need not engage in incitement; I am not sure it does not do so, but it only needs to allow this passage. The element that engages in incitement is not in Damascus or Syria; he is in Tehran. This element in Tehran has declared—he makes no secret of it—that he wants to disrupt the peace process.

## 'Terrorist' Killed in Clash With SLA

*TA2805102592 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000 GMT 28 May 92*

[Text] A terrorist was killed and another terrorist seriously wounded in a clash overnight with the South Lebanese Army [SLA] in the western sector of south Lebanon. Qol Yisra'el's reporter says the SLA soldiers identified the gunmen and opened fire. There were no injuries reported to the SLA soldiers.

## IDF Artillery Shells Southern Lebanese Targets

*TA2705185292 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 27 May 92*

[Excerpts] Beirut radio stations report that following a break which lasted since this morning, IDF [Israel Defense Forces] artillery has again begun to shell heavily south Lebanese targets in the Arnun and Yuhmur area. [passage omitted]

Our army affairs correspondent Beni Liss quotes Army sources as saying that the IDF artillery is indeed active in south Lebanon. Army elements believe that as long as there is no halt to terrorist activity on the northern border the IDF will continue with all the measures adopted in recent days.

## Polish Minister Seeking Computer, Agricultural Aid

*TA2705140292 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1200 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] An Israeli firm sold sophisticated computer equipment for operating Warsaw's new airport, Poland's Foreign Economic Cooperation Minister Adam Glapinski told our correspondent Yitzhaq Feller. He said Poland wants to buy computer technology, measuring equipment, agricultural technologies, and even Israeli organizational and administrative systems to set up joint projects with Israel in Byelarus, Ukraine, and Russia. The Polish minister arrived for the opening of Poland Week in Tel Aviv.

## Naval Electronics Contract With Venezuela Gained

*TA2705154692 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1300 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] Elisra Electronic Systems has won a tender to supply $12 million worth of naval electronic warfare systems to Venezuela's Navy. Our army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe reports that as part of the deal Elisra will supply integrated systems for anti-missile electronic warfare for vessels which will be refurbished as (Lupo)-class frigates. The Israeli Navy uses similar systems.

## Morocco 'Persuaded' To Join Program With Israel

*TA2705173592 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 24 May 92 pp 1, 15*

[Report by Muhammad Dalbah]

[Text] Washington—AL-QUDS has learned from informed U.S. diplomatic sources that the United States has persuaded Morocco to participate in the regional cooperation program with Israel in the scientific and agricultural spheres. These sources say that the Moroccan-Israeli cooperation program was launched recently after the Arab-Israeli bilateral negotiations in Madrid at the end of October.

These sources add that the regional cooperation program is administered and supervised by the UN Development Program [UNDP]. The UNDP asked Jordan to join Israel in setting up an Israeli-Jordanian cooperation committee relating to the same spheres, but the Jordanian Government has so far not responded to this request.

It is noteworthy that the only Arab country participating with Israel within the framework of the regional cooperation program is Egypt. This cooperation began in the wake of the signing of the Camp David accords in 1979.

## Further Reaction to Israeli Attacks in South

### Buwayz Rejects Israeli Aggression

*NC2705164592 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz rejected the assertion that Israeli aggression is a reaction to resistance activity, saying that Israeli aggression preceded any resistance act and that the resistance is a result of the Israeli occupation rather than a cause for aggression.

Buwayz said resistance is the homeland's right, not the exclusive right of a certain group or party. It is impermissible for any party to act unilaterally regarding this right, he said. He emphasized that the resistance should understand the state's policy and strategy and adjust its activity on this basis. He said that an incorrect implementation turns an honorable principle into a harmful and destructive one.

Buwayz said the main factor at play in the south is the people's steadfastness, adding that Lebanon has overcome the difficult phase.

The foreign minister said that the Israeli Government is trying to scare the Israeli citizens by conducting operations in the south and reminding them that the war is close to the borders. He said Israel is using the south to get breathing space for a number of domestic issues related to elections and other internal matters.

During a meeting with Editor's Doyen Milhim Karam, Minister Buwayz said that Israel is using the south whenever it is embarrassed in the peace conference to evade its responsibilities, adding that everything that is happening is an attempt to strengthen positions in the peace conference. He said both negative and positive events have taken place in the past few months. He added, however, that this will ultimately result in a new policy on the region.

Buwayz said the issue of the two German hostages is no longer a political problem. The Hammadi family has been given a time limit to try and get certain guarantees and, eventually, the two hostages will be released.

[(Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic at 1545 GMT on 27 May carries a similar report which quotes Buwayz as saying: "The detention of the two German hostages will end soon. He added: There are no political obstacles barring their release; only some formalities remain."]

### Hizballah Source Cited on UN View

*NC2805093092 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0530 GMT 28 May 92*

[Text] Commenting about UN Secretary General Butrus Ghali's statement concerning the Zionist acts of aggression against the Lebanese people, an official Hizballah source stated the following:

We hoped the UN secretary general's statement would be balanced and objective, instead of seeking a balance in formulating a stand, especially when the issue is between hangman and victim. Since Ghali regrets the killing of the innocent Israelis, Lebanese, and Palestinians, we would like to ask him about the killing of innocent Israelis and where they were killed. No Israeli was killed in the recent confrontation, not one of the occupation soldiers present on Lebanese territory as aggressors. All those killed were innocent and peaceful Lebanese people—attacked by raiding Zionist warplanes that targeted their homes, property, and souls. Is the UN secretary general oblivious to this fact? Has he forgotten that Israel is occupying parts of Lebanese territory and that the organization of which he is now chief once issued a group of resolutions condemning this occupation and demanding the withdrawal of the occupation forces?

The source added that disregard for all these facts prompts us to remind Ghali that even though he is on American territory, he is, supposedly, neither a representative of the U.S. Administration nor a spokesman for American policy; he is the United Nations secretary general and a representative of a supposedly international legitimacy uninfluenced by pressure.

The source concluded by saying that Ghali's statement repeated the American position about obliterating the facts, calling on both hangman and victim to exercise self-restraint. We restate our view that the United Nations and the UN Security Council may have been balanced during the cold war but not now. America dominates, and they have become a tool to consolidate the American policy of expansion and aggression by affording it an international cover. In every crisis, the United Nations and the UN Security Council appear as major false witness, in front of whose eyes the victim is killed and the hangman is asked to exercise patience and self-restraint.

## Further Reportage on Shelling in South

### Israeli Patrol Hit by Bomb

*NC2705194592 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1900 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] Our correspondent in al-Nabatiyah reports that resistance fighters detonated an explosive device against an Israeli occupation patrol near Qal'at al-Shaqif [Beaufort Castle] this afternoon. Columns of smoke were seen rising in the area. No further details were available.

The occupation forces retaliated by shelling the villages of Arnun, Kafr Tibnit, al-Hamra', and Yuhmur with approximately 50 120- mm shells from their positions in Qal'at al-Shaqif and al-Zaffat. The shelling stopped at 1830. Israeli military helicopters conducted intense flights over the area, and military reinforcements were moved to Qal'at al-Shaqif.

At 1930 shelling on Arnun and Kafr Tibnit resumed and continued until 2000. There are no reports about the outcome of the shelling. Meanwhile, Israeli military helicopters continued to fly over the area. [Paris AFP in English at 1544 GMT on 27 May 92 reports details of the explosion: "An Israeli soldier was seriously wounded Wednesday when a bomb exploded in Israel's buffer zone in south Lebanon, security sources said.

"The powerful bomb exploded at 5 p.m. (1400 GMT) when an Israeli patrol passed near Beaufort castle in the center of Israel's self- declared "security zone." Lebanese police in Sidon, a Mediterranean port south of Beirut, said that the residents of Arnun and Kafz Tibnit, communities to the north of the zone, had heard a "loud explosion," but gave no details. Immediately after the explosion, Israeli artillery in the buffer zone began shelling Arnun and other villages, police said. There was no immediate comment from Israel.

"The report of the explosion came following a series of Israeli raids and shelling attacks begun last week on suspected targets of the pro-Iranian Hizballah militia in south Lebanon. The raids, leaving up to 20 dead in Lebanon, began after a Hizballah attack on May 19 that Lebanese sources said killed four members of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army militia, which is based in the security zone."

Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic at 1900 GMT on 27 May 92 reports: "The agency [AFP] added that it has received a statement in which a spokesman for the Lebanese Resistance Front said that fighters of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party—the Higher Council, led by Dawud al-Baz, and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine detonated the explosive charge as an Israeli patrol was passing near Arnun."]

### Resistance Caller Claims Responsibility

*NC2805055092 Paris AFP in English 2210 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] Sidon, Lebanon, May 27 (AFP) - An Israeli soldier was killed and another was wounded Wednesday when a bomb exploded in Israel's buffer zone in south Lebanon, police said here in the region's main city.

The report was later confirmed by an Israeli military spokesman in Jerusalem, who said two soldiers had been injured in an ambush, and one of them had died.

A telephone caller saying he spoke for the Lebanese National Resistance Front (LNRF), grouping various secular pro-Syrian parties and Palestinian groups, told AFP that the front was responsible for the attack.

The powerful bomb exploded when an Israeli patrol passed near Beaufort Castle in the central portion of Israel's self-declared "security zone," Lebanese police said, adding that the explosion also damaged a tank.

An Israeli unit backed by tanks and artillery had moved out of the zone briefly and dynamited a home in a nearby village before returning to base, the police added.

Immediately after the explosion, Israeli artillery and tanks in the buffer zone began shelling nearby villages for about an hour, police said.

Israeli helicopters then flew over the site of the explosion as well as over those villages, which are just north of the buffer zone, they said.

Lebanese police in Sidon, a Mediterranean port south of Beirut, said the residents of the villages of Arnun and Kafr Tibnit had heard a "loud explosion," but gave no details.

The LNRF spokesman said fighters from the Syrian National Socialist Party of Dawud Baz and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine of George Habash carried out the attack.

Reading a statement, he said the fighters "set off a powerful explosive near Arnun as an Israeli patrol went by."

"Clashes involving automatic weapons continued Wednesday evening between our fighters and enemy soldiers," he said.

The report of the explosion followed a series of Israeli raids and shelling attacks begun last week on suspected sites of the pro-Iranian Hizballah militia in south Lebanon.

The raids, which have left up to 20 dead in Lebanon, began after a Hizballah attack on May 19 that Lebanese sources said killed four members of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army militia, which is based in the security zone.

### Israeli Overflights Continue in South

*NC2805082092 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0800 GMT 28 May 92*

[Text] Israeli warplanes have been flying over the south and the capital since 0520 today.

Meanwhile, a state of tension continues to reign in Iqlim al- Tuffah and the liberated areas adjacent to the border strip and western al-Biqa'.

### Fundamentalists Hurt in SLA Attack

*NC2805112292 Paris AFP in English 1045 GMT 28 May 92*

[Text] Sidon, Lebanon, May 28 (AFP) - Two Muslim fundamentalist militants were hurt early Thursday when a commando of the pro-Iranian Hizballah attacked positions of Israel's proxy militia in south Lebanon, security sources reported.

Hizballah said the casualties fell during clashes with an Israeli patrol inside Israel's self-declared "security zone" in south Lebanon.

But security sources told AFP the Hizballah commando battled with Israel's proxy militia, the South Lebanon

Army (SLA), adding that the wounded Muslim fundamentalist militants were evacuated to a regional hospital.

In Jerusalem, military sources said the SLA had shot dead an anti-Israeli fighter and wounded another on Thursday.

Israeli gunners retaliated by shelling the village of Majdal Zun, where the commando had taken off from, the sources added.

Earlier Hizballah and SLA fighters inside the zone traded automatic weapons fire, the sources said.

A week of violence has pitted Hizballah [against] Israeli troops and the SLA militia, leaving scores of people dead and wounded, most of them civilians.

An Israeli soldier was killed Wednesday and another wounded in a roadside bomb explosion in the security zone that was later claimed by the Lebanese National Resistance Front, grouping secular pro-Syrian and Palestinian groups.

### Phalangist Sa'adah To Participate in Government

*NC2705172092 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 27 May 92*

[Excerpt] A few minutes ago, Phalangist Party Leader Dr. George Sa'adah announced that he will participate in the new Lebanese Government as a minister who shoulders the responsibility of his portfolio; shares in shaping the Cabinet's views and adopting its decisions; pursues implementing Cabinet decisions; and follows all public affairs. This notice came in a statement issued by Dr. Sa'adah from his house in the al-Naqqash area, where he chaired a Phalangist Party deputies meeting. [passage omitted]

## Council of Ministers Reviews Lebanon Events

*JN2605165192 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1535 GMT 26 May 92*

[Text] Damascus, 26 May (SANA)—The Council of Ministers met under Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi this morning.

A general political review focusing on the Lebanese arena was conducted during the meeting.

The Council of Ministers discussed the initial evaluations of the agricultural season, which include positive signs about various crops.

The council also reviewed the preparatory steps that should be taken to export surplus vegetables and fruit, especially potatoes and citrus fruit.

The Council of Ministers also discussed various issues on its agenda and adopted the necessary decisions and measures.

## Commentary on Israeli 'Escalation'

*JN2605180992 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 May 92*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: The enemy government's serious aggressive escalation in southern Lebanon did not come as a surprise to anyone. Observers have even predicted such an escalation with the approach of Israeli elections and the dues of the peace process.

Every one knows that Yitzhaq Shamir and senior Likud officials do not want peace. They wager on creating tension to cover up for the scheme that seeks to fill the occupied Arab territories with settlements, expel the Palestinian people and the residents of southern Lebanon, and create new settlements on the ground, the presence of which would make any talk about peace a waste of time and effort.

By escalating the oppressive acts in the occupied Arab territories—where scores of Palestinians fall daily under the force of Israeli bullets—and by the intensive air raids and ground attacks against villages in southern Lebanon, accompanied by Israeli threats in all directions, Shamir wants to spread a climate of war in the region to shatter every hope about achieving progress in the peace talks. Shamir is also trying to persuade Israeli electorates to vote for the Likud and other Zionist extremists, who publicly state their desire to boycott the peace process and forge ahead in the scheme to expel the Arabs from their homes and establish greater Israel on the rubble of the Palestinian people's homes.

The Israeli escalation has reached serious levels in terms of the size and intensity of the aggressive military operations and raids. Thousands of people have had to leave their villages and towns in southern Lebanon. Enemy bombs have killed scores of children, women, and elderly people. The savage raids have also buried entire families under the rubble of their homes. The enemy government, as always, used acts of resistance as an excuse, despite the fact that such acts are not new. Resistance emerged as a result of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982, the severance of part of southern Lebanon, and Israel's establishment of a militia it calls the South Lebanese Army. This army is a group of mercenaries whose arms, clothes, food, and wages come from Israel and performs whatever tasks assigned to it, particularly terrorizing the residents of southern Lebanon and attacking their property in an attempt to force them to flee their homes.

By the force of arms, Israel's government has opposed the Lebanese Army's attempts to deploy in the southern areas, shoulder its security responsibilities, and impose the authority of the state. Israel wants to keep the south a source of aggression and tension. It wants also to use the security conditions as an excuse for refusing to implement UN Security Council Resolution 425, which demands the Israeli invasion troops' immediate and unconditional withdrawal from all Lebanese territory.

The Israeli attacks in the south confirm Israel's absolute rejection of peace and a full determination to continue with the course of aggression, expansionism, and war.

The world is today watching part of Israel's shocking acts, both in the occupied territories and southern Lebanon. Israel's rulers will not be able to deceive anyone and justify these acts. The direct objective of these savage acts is to torpedo the peace efforts and prompt the Israeli electorates, under the excuse of security, to vote for the Likud and bring in a government of fanatics that will abort future peace talks, just like it did the previous five rounds of peace talks.

Israel's rulers, who have become professionals in the policy of destruction, murder, annihilation, and programmed terrorism, are today practicing the law of the jungle in its ugliest form and before the very eyes of the world. They defy all international resolutions and belittle all the efforts that have been exerted to achieve Middle East detente, which would push forward the peace process. They murder scores of Palestinians every day. They raid the Lebanon and destroy human life, property, and farms. They make threats and act contentiously in the region as if there were no international community, international law, or a United Nations, and they take advantage of the world's silence to commit further crimes. Yet, at the same time, they are revealing to the world their aggressive nature and firm hostility toward peace.

Sooner or later, the world community will have to chose one of two options: Either to confront Israel and curb its aggressiveness and force it to respect UN resolutions and legitimacy, or to abdicate its responsibilities. Otherwise, the law of the jungle will spread and the world will turn into a stage for attacks by wild beasts, like we see today in the occupied territories and southern Lebanon.

## Oil Minister Remarks on Oil, Gas Production

*JN2605110392 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0940 GMT 26 May 92*

[Text] Doha, 26 May (WAKH)—Dr. Matanyus Habib, Syrian minister of oil and mineral resources, has said that his country has invited all Arab oil companies to participate in its projects, whether in exploration or development of oil and gas fields.

In a statement to the Qatari newspaper AL-SHARQ published today, he said: Syria encourages utilizing Arab expertise and companies, in addition to cooperating with all qualified foreign companies to look for and produce oil. He noted that the number of companies that have contracts with Syria in this field is continuously increasing.

Replying to a question on oil production in Syria, Matanyus Habib said: Production is not stable. Therefore, it is difficult to give precise figures. This is because it varies depending on the situation of the new fields, and the cessation of production at other fields.

He added: With regard to the discovered gas, it is enough to cover local needs—something which helps provide more oil for export. With regard to household gas, we are gradually approaching self-sufficiency, especially when household gas-distillation factories begin to work at full capacity.

## NPF Panel Discusses 'Internal Strength'

*JN2305120692*

[Editorial Report] Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Television Network in Arabic at 1815 GMT on 20 May carries within its "Open Dialogue" program another 90-minute recorded panel discussion about the Syrian National Progressive Front [NPF] and "its importance in building Syria's internal strength and in serving the homeland's issues and objectives." The panel discussion is attended by NPF Central Command members Dr. Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, vice president; Khalid Bakdash, secretary general of the Syrian Communist Party; 'Abd-al-Ghani Qannut, secretary general of the Arab Socialists Movement; and Ahmad al-As'ad, secretary general of the Democratic Socialist Unionist Party.

Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah begins by presenting a brief historical review of the dialogue with the NPF parties before and after the Corrective Movement. Speaking on the same subject, Khalid Bakdash says: "Cooperation between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and our Syrian Communist Party goes back to the fifties when the pan-Arab parliamentary grouping, which included the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, our party, and some nationalist figures, was established."

Speaking about democracy in Syria, Khalid Bakdash says: "As President Hafiz al-Asad says, democracy varies from one country to another." He adds: "Democracy in Syria is not confined to cooperation for the sake of elections. For example, it includes the concept of paving the way for the masses' contribution toward the country's general policy, domestic policy, and social and economic life. Following the establishment of the NPF and the approval of its charter and bylaws, cooperation among its parties has become organized." 'Abd-al-Ghani Qannut speaks about the nature of dialogue among the NPF parties which led to the release of the NPF charter on 7 March 1972.

Ahmad al-As'ad speaks about the NPF as being the pillar of the internal front politically, socially, economically, and culturally. He praises al-Asad's policy and political thinking. He says that al-Asad's political thinking laid the foundations of a "pioneering democratic and cultural experiment." He adds that this experiment is based on "political and economic pluralism, and included large-scale operations to organize and build the society."

Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah elaborates on differences among societies in terms of language, religion, and culture. He says: "The truth is that the formula of democracy is not a commodity to be imported from this or that country, it is the framework within which the citizens exercise their rights and duties in accordance with their prevailing circumstances. The citizen in our country plays a role that is deeper and more expanded than the role played in many world states, including the advanced states, through his role in the democratically-elected state institutions such as the local councils and the People's Assembly, through his role in the popular organizations and trade unions and its leaderships, or through his role in the parties and its democratically-elected leaderships." Khalid Bakdash speaks about the same subject within the NPF framework. He reiterates what al-Asad said that Syria will not capitulate or relinquish Syrian or Arab territories.

Turning to current world changes, Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah says that the current world changes have not yet settled, and they might bring something new. "The shape of the new world, as a result of these changes, has also not yet been settled. It is an axiom that with the end of the international balance that used to exist, matters should not end with one power imposing its hegemony over the world. It is the nature of things and the law of nature that balance be restored as a result of new changes and factors which would take either a short or long time." He praises democracy in Syria and political pluralism within the framework of the NPF.

Ahmad al-As'ad praises al-Asad's "wise and courageous" leadership, which made President Hafiz al-Asad "one of the most prominent leaders of this age." He adds: "Regardless of whether or not we were placed on the terrorism list, as is the case now and as the brothers said, the world, which we now call new, is not our final destiny. We deal with the world realistically, on equal footing, and in accordance with the mutual interests of our people and country with this world. In my opinion, the real tragedy lies in the absence of Arab solidarity, in the overall Arab decline."

## Afghanistan

### Mas'ud Confers With Pakistan Premier's Emissary

*BK2505081492 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0600 GMT 25 May 92*

[Text] General Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, the defense minister of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, has said that significant progress has been made toward the settlement of all important political matters [umur] among mojahedin groups and that these matters will be resolved within two or three days. He was talking to the Radio Pakistan correspondent after his talks with Ejazul Haq, the Pakistani prime minister's special emissary, in Kabul last night. Gen. Mas'ud said he and the people of Afghanistan are deeply grateful to the government and the people of Pakistan for their offer of generous assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Afghanistan. He thanked God and expressed his satisfaction over the fact that as a result of close cooperation and fraternal relations between his country and Pakistan, the negative tendency [rujhan] of the former Kabul regime has come to an end. [sentence as heard] He expressed the hope that these ties will grow stronger in the days to come. Earlier, the prime minister's special emissary assured the Afghan defense minister of Pakistan's every possible assistance and support for the reconstruction of Afghanistan.

### Islamic Unity Party Spokesman Interviewed

*LD2705133392 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] In the wake of recent important developments in Afghanistan, in an interview with our reporter today Mr. Nateqi, spokesman of the Islamic Unity Party of Afghanistan [Hezb-e Wahdat- e Eslami] explained that country's internal events. Referring to the elections in Afghanistan he said: We agree with the principle of elections but a decision on that issue must be made by all the nationalities. We will participate in the elections only when our demands—that is, giving consideration to the nationalities of Afghanistan—are met.

Referring to the continued and positive talks with Messrs Mojaddadi, Gaylani, and Mohamad Nabi, he stressed: We raised a demand for one quarter of the quota [of seats] in the government and in the majles. The ways and means of it are being studied.

Rejecting the eight-point agreement between Ahmad Shah Mas'ud and Hekmatyar, Mr. Nateqi stressed that the said agreement did not solve the problem of the people of Afghanistan because in the quotas agreed by them the demands of the people of northern Afghanistan were not considered. He said: We have repeatedly announced that we support peace and security and that we are opposed to any kind of bloodshed and fighting. So the future of Afghanistan must be determined by giving consideration to the views of all the nationalities.

## India

### New Delhi Reiterates Call for Nuclear Test Ban

*BK2205133092 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 22 May 92*

[Text] India has reiterated its call for a comprehensive ban on nuclear weapon test. Responding to a query on yesterday's nuclear test by China, a spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said that New Delhi earnestly hopes that all states, nuclear and non-nuclear alike, will move toward concluding such a ban at the earliest. As already reported, China conducted a powerful underground nuclear test in the northern part of the country yesterday.

### Commentary Notes Achievements in Space Field

*BK2205143692 Delhi All India Radio General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 22 May 92*

[Commentary by Meeta Sanghvi, the special correspondent of THE MATHRUBHUMI: "India's Satellite Put Into Orbit"]

[Text] India on Wednesday [20 May] successfully launched the Augmented Satellite Launch Vehicle [ASLV] which put a SROSS [Stretched Rohini Satellite Series] satellite into a 450-km-high orbit. The launch of the 23.8 meter tall rocket, the third developmental version of the ASLV, took place at Sriharikota Rocket Launching Station of the Indian Space Research Organization [ISRO] in Andhra Pradesh. The SROSS payload will conduct scientific experiments.

The success of the ASLV in placing a 106-kg satellite—SROSS—in orbit comes at the most opportune moment in India's space history. It convincingly demonstrates to the world that there can be no stopping Indian space scientists from developing an indigenous capability to put heavier satellites into orbits higher than 450 km with their own launch vehicles, the U.S. Government's restrictions and pressures notwithstanding.

To the hawks of U.S. policymakers advising Washington for getting tough with this country, using future sale of Russian cryogenic rocket engines as a pretext, the satellite launch must come as a stark evidence of India's growing capability. Surely, U.S. policymakers could not have been unaware that they were on unsure ground in imposing restrictions on ISRO, ostensibly under the Missile Technology Control Regime at a time when India's space technology had apparently come of age. Also that any precipitate action against India would only inspire its highly motivated scientific community into redoubling its efforts toward achieving self-reliance in this particular discipline.

It is really a matter of great pride for the Indian scientists who have indigenously designed the whole satellite. In fact, no one from anywhere would have given us any help in this project. The satellite is orbiting the earth once every 92 minutes and is being tracked from Sriharikota in coastal Andhra Pradesh, the Vikram Sarabhai Space Center in Trivandrum, and the Car Nicobar Islands. The telemetry received shows that the satellite is performing as expected. The third successful developmental flight of ASLV comes after two failures of the rockets in the same series. The first launch on 24 March 1987 was abortive as the first stage motor failed to ignite. The second flight on 13 July 1988 failed following the collapse of control system. It was after these two failures that ISRO incorporated some modifications in the ASLV. These were based on the recommendations of an expert review panel and the failure analysis committee.

ASLV is designed to augment indigenous satellite launch capability and put 150-kg class satellites into low earth orbits. It is a parallel to the Scout class rockets launched by the United States of America. The five-stage rocket has two strap-on motors [and] gyrostat. It uses solid propellants as did its predecessors—the SLV series of rockets. It incorporates major technological elements, such as close loops guidance schemes, bulbous heat shield, S-band telemetry, tracking and command and navigational computers. SROSS-C is carrying two payloads—the gama ray burst experiment to study celestial (?bursts) in the energy range of 20 kilowatt to 300 kilowatt and the retarding potential analyzer of the National Physical Laboratory. The satellite has mounted and deployable solar panels.

The next step now would be to launch vehicles, such as the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle, which can place into space 1,000-kg satellites, such as the Indian Remote Sensing Satellite; and the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicles and 2,500-kg satellites, such as those of the INSAT-2 series.

The successful launch of the ASLV is a morale booster for Indian space scientists, coming as it does when they face a two-year technology embargo slapped by the United States of America. The space (?experts) at various centers of the ISRO in the country have reasons to be jubilant as their success has established India's capability in developing launch vehicles. The space scientists have been lauded by fellow scientists at this silicon plateau. The Indian Institute of Science director, Mr. C.N.R. Rao, said it is very good. This should have happened some time ago. New Delhi need not fall into the trap of a debate on whether its missile development plans are either civilian or military in nature. All that is needed is that Professor U.R. Rao of ISRO and Dr. Abdul Kalam of DRDO [Defense Research and Development Organization] and their teams get the necessary assistance and encouragement for unhindered work on space ventures.

## Test-Firing of 'Agni' Missile Set for 29 May

*BK2805025892 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 28 May 92*

[Text] The second test firing of India's intermediate-range surface-to-surface missile—Agni—is all set to take place tomorow [29 May] at the missile range at Chandipur in Orissa. This will be the second major flight of the missile to test its system. Earlier, Agni, with a 2,500-km range, was successfully flight tested in 1989, which put India among the six nations possessing the IRBM launch technology. Agni has a two-stage rocket system and is boosted by an indigenously-built satellite launch vehicle.

## Relations With China Seen as 'Imperative'

*BK2205034092 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 22 May 92*

[Commentary by K.R. Narayanan, Member of parliament and former union minister]

[Text] President Venkataraman's visit to the People's Republic of China is a historic one. It is a first visit of an Indian president to China. In that sense it telescopes into a single event—something of the age-old friendship and cooperation between the two of the major civilizations of the world. This visit, coming as it does at a critical turning point in the history of the world, particularly of Asia, also marks the opening of a window on the future.

In the 1950's, the coming closer of India and China had an impact on Asian and World developments. It emphasized the emergence of the Third World as a new factor in international politics—a balancing factor against the superpowers and the developed countries. The cry of Hindi-Chini Bhai Bhai [Chinese and Indians are brothers] which was raised at that time was significant in the bilateral relations between the two Asian giants and also as a new political phenomenon which had the potential of rectifying the traditional balance of the world.

It is interesting that during President Venkataraman's visit, we have heard from both sides the desire to revive the spirit friendship of the Bhai-Bhai period. In the unipolar world of today, the friendly relationship between India and China—not directed against anyone—seems to be emerging as an imperative of the times. Perhaps, President Yang Shangkun had this also in mind when he reportedly said that if we do not seize the opportunity and develop ourselves, others might bully us in the future.

Unlike normal visits at heads of state level, that of President Venkataraman's visit to China was not overcrowded with ceremonials and protocol. Much more time was devoted to talks and discussions of substantive nature. The process of exploring bilateral relations extensively and in depth during Rajiv Gandhi's visit and Li Peng's visit to India seems to have been carried forward in a meaningful way. It is now recognized that in order to come to grips with the complicated problems of the border, this process has to be expanded to all fields and to all levels, including senior leadership of the two countries. The president's visit has served as a high-level confidence-building exercise and also as a measures of tackling some of the concrete issues in relationship. One feels that this visit might well turn out to be an essay in understanding and cooperation between two great neighbors and two of the most populous countries of the world.

### Commentary Views Venkataraman's PRC Visit

*BK2605142292 Delhi All India Radio General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 26 May 92*

[Commentary by UNI Special correspondent, (J.D. Sarosai): "President Venkataraman's Visit to China"]

[Text] President Ramaswamy Venkataraman's six-day goodwill visit to China opens a new chapter in the checkered history of Sino-Indian relations. Chinese are known for their correctness in the pursuit of their foreign policy and not giving to flamboyance. This is precisely why Chinese President Yang Shangkun naming Mr. Venkataraman's visit as a complete success assumes enormous significance. What was meant to be a routine goodwill visit turned out to be a highly political one with both India and China agreeing to recapture the hectic days of Hindi-Chini Bhai Bhai [India-China brotherhood] days. This is being interpreted as the Chinese desire to set aside the border question and concentrate more on strengthening economic bilateral relations.

Speaking to newsmen on board Air India's special aircraft on his return journey on Monday, Mr. Venkataraman said that steps should be hastened to reduce tension along the Sino-Indian border to give a political thrust to the confidence-building measures. Chinese prime minister, Mr. Li Peng, pointed out that this has already been taken by the Joint Working Group, which is JWG, to go into (?substantial) issue of the border question. Mr. Venkataraman specifically underlined the urgent need for reduction of force levels, lessening of promixity tensions and exchange of information on troop deployment along the troubled border. In this connection, the brigadier-level officers of the Indian Army and People's Liberation [Army] of China are to hold two meetings next month to set in motion the process of reducing tensions along the border and create mutual trust between the forces. The brigadier-level meeting will discuss what steps the two countries should take to reduce the forces level deployed along 1,600 miles along the Sino-Indian border and what type the communications should be set up for exchange of information on troop deployment. Both China and India shared the view that the border question should be sorted out peacefully and patiently through negotiations and without any timeframe.

Relations between India and Pakistan figured in the talks Mr. Venkataraman had with Mr. Li Peng. The president apprised the host that India desired friendly relations with its northern neighbors, but Pakistan's overt and covert support to terrorists in India is standing in the way of normalization of relations between the two countries. The Chinese premier assured Mr. Venkataraman that China was a friend of both India and Pakistan. It has been mentioned to the Pakistani premier of India's willingness to have friendly and cordial relations with Pakistan and that Pakistan should respond to it.

On the Kashmir problem, Mr. Li Peng expressed the view that this should be settled within the framework of Simla agreement. The Chinese leaders told the president that friendship between India and China would constitute a major factor in assuring peace and stability not only in Asia but also in the entire world. The official statement issued at the end of the president's visit states that the development of cooperation between India and China would not pose any threat to any other country. The Chinese leaders were a little unhappy over the political campaign carried on by Tibetan religious leader Dalai Lama. The president assured the Chinese leaders that India had laid down certain conditions for Tibetan refugees and one of them was that they should not indulge in political activities. The general secretary of the Chinese Communist Party, Mr. Jiang Zemin, stressed that India and China should come together. Otherwise, developing countries would be bullied.

Secretary to the President Mr. P. Murari; Foreign Secretary Mr. J.N. Dixit; and the minister in the waiting, Mr. P.R. Kumaramangalam assisted the president at these talks with the Chinese leaders. Mr. Venkataraman, despite his busy schedule, found time to hold a condolence meeting to commemorate the first death anniversary of the former prime minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, who visited China in 1988 to explore the possibilities of lessening tensions between the two countries. In Beijing, Mr. Venkataraman and wife Janaki visited the Great Wall and the Forbidden City before flying to ancient city Xian and southern city of Hangzhou and Shanghai before returning to New Delhi.

### Article Views U.S. Regional 'Coercion'

*BK2505061392 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 11 May 92 p 8*

[By S. P. Seth]

[Text] Whether the withdrawal of generalised system of preferences (GSP) from Indian pharmaceutical and chemical exports is part of concerted U.S. pressure on a wide front is too early to say. But since the United States is determined to dominate the world, it is in no mood to tolerate any kind of resistance anywhere in the world. It is even more so in the case of third world countries.

Washington has no doubt that "third world nations in pursuit of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons technology, or missile and other strategic technology, pose a serious threat" to world security. They must, therefore, be prevented from acquiring these weapons and technologies at any cost. The U.S. pressure on Russia to deny India its rocket technology is a case in point. India is similarly under pressure on the nuclear question.

For the Asia-Pacific region there is a specific blueprint for U.S. domination, called "A strategic framework for the Asia-Pacific Rim: Looking toward the 21st century." It says of the region: "The 1990's will be a decade of transition in the Asia-Pacific region. Political volatility and turbulence will characterise key countries.... Intensified economic competition within the region and with the United States will increasingly complicate security relationships...."

Therefore, even in the post-cold war period, Washington would not countenance any significant reduction of its military role in the Asia-Pacific region. It will now assume "the role of regional balancer, honest broker, and ultimate security guarantor". Because, without its dominant military presence, there would result a "security vacuum that other major players (India being one of them) would be tempted or compelled to fill". This would create regional confrontation, leading to instability and insecurity.

In a recent FOREIGN AFFAIRS article, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker has said: "What was a secondary aspect of our Cold War era security presence is becoming the primary rationale for our defence engagement in the region: to provide geo-political balance, to be an honest broker, to reassure against uncertainty." In other words, the United States will be the arbiter of regional (Asia-Pacific) destiny.

Indeed, the countries of the Asia-Pacific region are supposed to feel grateful for America's 'balancing role'. Because, as William J. Crowe Jr. and Alan D. Romberg have argued: "By preventing creation of a security vacuum, the U.S. presence relieves others of the need—or opportunity—to establish regional hegemony."

With this 'laudable objective', the United States does not see the need to diminish its military role in the region, particularly its naval presence. Because "the U.S. is, has, and always will be a maritime power...dependent on the freedom of the seas and our ability to access our overseas markets." In the case of the Pacific, about 37 percent (over 300 billion in annual two-way trade) of "our total trade is in Asia."

The U.S. must, therefore, "continue our strategy of forward presence in Asia for the foreseeable future" and maintain and broaden "access to facilities throughout the region." Because "U.S. forces in the Pacific must be able to deter war, or—if deterrence fails—to fight and win."

Washington has left nothing unsaid about its determination to dominate the Asia-Pacific region, based on a detailed blueprint. Anybody coming in its way would be sternly dealt with. New Delhi should, therefore, be prepared for more of U.S. coercion on trade and other issues.

### Delhi, Dhaka To Set Up Immigration Task Force

*BK2705163592 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] India and Bangladesh are to set up a joint task force to deal with the problems of Chakma refugees, illegal immigrants, and other related issues, including ULFA [United Liberation Front of Assam]. The task force will be headed by the home secretaries of the two countries. Briefing newsmen in New Delhi today, an External Affairs Ministry spokesman said the two countries signed three agreements for avoidance of double taxation, strengthening of cultural ties, and convention on exchange of plots for construction of chancery and residential buildings. He said exchange of instruments of ratification on avoidance of double taxation was signed by the member of the Central Board of Direct Taxes, Mr. G.C. Aggarwal, and the Bangladesh additional foreign secretary, Mr. Mahmud Ali. The two sides hoped that this will promote the investment and flow of new technology into important areas. The foreign secretaries of the two countries—Mr. J.N. Dixit and Mr. Riaz Rahman—signed the agreement in the presence of the two prime ministers on exchange of chancery plots, which will enable the two sides to house their high commissions. The spokesman said that the mechanism to set up the joint task force was reached at the talks between the minister of state for external affairs, Mr. Eduardo Faleiro, and his Bangladesh counterpart. He said the talks between the delegations of the two countries concluded today. The prime ministers of both the countries also had separate talks.

The home minister, Mr. S.B. Chavan, called on the visiting Bangladesh prime minister, Begum Khaleda Zia, in New Delhi. They had discussions for 30 minutes covering various issues, including the Chakma refugee problem and activities of subversive elements.

### Forced Repatriation of Tamil Refugees Alleged

*BK2405013292 Hong Kong AFP in English 1449 GMT 23 May 92*

[Text] New Delhi, May 23 (AFP)—India is forcibly repatriating Tamil refugees who fled fighting between separatist guerrillas and the government in Sri Lanka, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) Saturday quoted a Tamil human rights activist as saying.

S.C. Chandrahasan, coordinator of the organistion for Protection of Tamil of Eelam from Genocide and Other Violations of Human Rights (PROTEG), said refugees living in improvised camps in India's southern state of Tamil Nadu were being "forced" to return home.

Chandrahasan was quoted as pleading in a letter to Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao not to "compel the unwilling" to return to Sri Lanka, which is separated from India by the narrow Palk Straits.

He said that 23,000 refugees to be repatriated in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu, where most of them have taken shelter, were not in a position to go back to their homes.

The returnees were still living in refugee camps in Sri Lanka's Mannar, Trincomalee and Vavuniya Districts as they were reluctant to return home in view of continued fighting between government troops and guerrillas from the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

PTI said Chandrahasan, now living in Madras, also wrote separately to Rao to investigate the alleged forcible repatriations from Tamil Nadu, which is ruled by a state government controlled by an Indian Tamil party, the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK), which is firm on sending back all the refugees.

Chandrahasan estimated that there were some 200,000 refugees living in Tamil Nadu.

## Adviser Denies Army Being 'Repositioned' in Punjab

*BK2505164192 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 25 May 92*

[Text] The security adviser to the Punjab government, Lieutenant General, retired, J.K. Puri has described as incorrect a report in a section of the press that the Army is being repositioned in Punjab. In a statement today, he said that the Army has been deployed with the primary task of rendering assistance to the civil authorities and its performance has been appreciated. Therefore, there is no question of its ineffectiveness in dealing with the militants requiring repositioning.

In Punjab, two self-styled lieutenant generals of the so-called Khalistan Commando Force were gunned down by security forces near village Jhamke in Majitha District today. According to police sources they were involved in about 500 killings. Five employees of a private electric company from outside the state were killed by militants in Mansa.

## Mizoram Government Demands More Forces

*BK2605080492 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0730 GMT 26 May 92*

[Text] Mizoram government has demanded more paramilitary forces and additional border outposts to check infiltration from Myanmar [Burma] and Bangladesh. The state chief minister, Mr. Lal Thanhawla, told PTI that he held discussions in this regard with the prime minister and the home minister in New Delhi. He said Mr. S.B. Chavan has assured him to provide more battalions of Assam Rifles to deal with the situation. Mr. Lal Thanhawla also told the news agency that he held talks with the chief ministers of Assam and Manipur on a joint strategy to deal with insurgency. The prime minister and the Planning Commission deputy chairman have assured inclusion of some of the proposed hydel [hydroelectric] projects in the eighth five-year plan, the chief minister added.

## Killings in Uttar Pradesh, Punjab Reported

*BK2705161092 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] In Uttar Pradesh, 14 persons were killed by suspected terrorists in separate incidents in three Terai districts of the state since last night. According to official sources in Lucknow, terrorists stopped a bus near Kuyantal in Rampur District and killed five and injured two other persons this morning. In another incident, terrorists killed three motorcyclists and two passengers of a bus near Bilaspur in Rampur. Elsewhere in the state terrorists killed three persons in Pilibhit District and one near Sitarganj in Nainital District last night. A massive manhunt has been launched to nab the militants.

In Punjab, four militants were killed in an encounter with the security forces early this morning near village Bhurewali in Amritsar District. According to official sources, two of them have been identified as hard-core terrorists. Police have recovered five bodies killed by militants near Chamkur Saheb in Ropar District.

## Delhi Radio Engineer Killed

*BK2705131292 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] The kidnapped station engineer of AIR [All India Radio] Patiala, Mr. Mohan Lal Manchanda, has been killed by the Punjab militants. His headless body was found at Shambhu Baria in Patiala district of Punjab this morning. The severed head was found later near Ambala in Haryana. The body was identified by Mr. Manchanda's relatives who were brought from Panipat in Haryana to Rajpura where it had been kept in a hospital. A note was recovered from the body which listed the militants' demands. Mr. Manchanda, aged 50, was officiating as station director of AIR Patiala when he was kidnapped on the 18th of this month.

The Haryana chief minister, Mr. Bhajan Lal, has expressed shock at Mr. Manchanda's killing and announced a grant of 1 lakh rupees for his family. AIR staff associations in Patiala, Chandigarh, Bhatinda, and Jullundur have condemned Mr. Manchanda's killing. The information and broadcasting minister, Mr. Ajit Kumar Panja, has condemned the dastardly killing of Mr. Manchanda. In a message to his family, Mr. Panja said that the entire ministry would stand by them in their hour of grief.

## Kashmir Radio Engineer Kidnapped

*BK2605080892 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 25 May 92*

[Text] The assistant station engineer of Radio Kashmir, Mr. Ayaz Ahmed Malik, along with his security guard, has been kidnapped by unidentified gunmen. The incident took place this morning at the Haval area of Srinagar where Mr. Malik was on his way to office. Elsewhere in the valley, at least one militant was killed and 10 subversives, including six Pakistan-trained militants, were arrested by security forces. In another development, the state authorities today decided to release 271 detainees immediately.

### Assistant Station Director Rescued

*BK2605113892 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 26 May 92*

[Text] A message just now received says in Jammu and Kashmir, the assistant station director of Radio Kashmir, Mr. Ghulam Hussain Zia, has been rescued by another militant outfit from his kidnapper Islami Inquilab Front. He was kidnapped on the 7th of March. He reached his home this afternoon.

### Development Council Approves 5-Year Economic Plan

*BK2305162692 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 23 May 92*

[Text] The National Development Council has approved the Eighth 5-Year Plan document with a call for revamping rural development programs. The plan envisaging an annual growth rate of 5.6 percent has an outlay of 798,000 crore rupees. Of this, the public sector will account for 45 percent, amounting to 434,100 crore rupees.

Addressing a press conference in New Delhi this afternoon, the deputy chairman of the Planning Commission said that during the two-day deliberations the chief ministers wanted to transfer a part of the rural development program to the states. He said the program will be recast with flexibility to enable the states to implement the programs that will suit them. Emphasizing the need for additional resource mobilization, Mr. Mukherjee said the Center is ready to provide consultancy services in solving the state problems. He said the allocation for the special category states will be finalized after receiving the Dr. Rangarajan Committee report, which is expected by the end of June.

Replying to questions on reservations voiced by the West Bengal chief minister, Mr. Jyoti Basu, the deputy chairman said that some of it, like transferring of rural development allocations to the states and general economic policies, have been taken care of. The other issue on cuts in the earmarked outlay to the states for nonimplementation has always been there. The Center is prepared to consider it if states come up with their alternative programs before the end of the financial year. He pointed out that the private sector gets 55 percent of the outlay and said that the government does not want any serious dislocation in areas vacated by the public sector in the transitional period.

In his intervention, the finance minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, said the Center has decided to transfer 100 percent of the external assistance to the states to ensure speedy implementation of projects and lessen the need for additional aid. He said that from 1993-94 onwards, the Center will give 8 percent of the expected reimbursement to the states as an advance to improve their liquidity and project implementation.

In his concluding remarks, the prime minister said that the socioeconomic development is a joint endeavor of the Center and state governments and that both should cooperate in implementing the plan programs within a stipulated timeframe.

## Iran

### Reportage on First Consultative Majles Session

#### Khamene'i Delivers Message

*LD2805093192 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0412 GMT 28 May 92*

[Ayatollah Khamene'i's message to the first session of the fourth term of the Islamic Consultative Majles, read by Mohammadi Golpayegani—live]

[Text] In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful:

I express my gratitude to God Almighty, who assisted the Iranian nation in succeeding in another stage of its jihad and revolutionary endeavors. The fourth term of the Islamic Consultative Majles—as with previous terms—is assembled from true representatives and deputies of this brave nation.

Once again the sensational presence of the people on the election scenes and their determination—derived from their deep affection and faith to Islam—succeeded over the arrogant enemies and their political and propaganda ploys. God's assistance and attention, as well as the good will of God's grand guardianship— may my soul be sacrificed for him—was delivered to this pious nation, and the elections were held in a respectable way, an indication of this country's stability and the nation's determination and wisdom.

This country's people and its officials should appreciate this great blessing, and if it merits appreciation and gratitude, then they should do so.

Once again I express my gratitude to our dear people who took this giant step at this sensitive juncture, and I should also send my greetings from the bottom of my heart to the illustrious imam, who founded this epic-creating presence.

I remind the esteemed representatives of a few points:

1. The Majles and the Islamic system play a real role in the management and the guidance of the country. The proper implementation of that role will have a deep and decisive effect on the country's destiny and its major stances. It is the duty of each individual esteemed representative to assist the Majles toward performing

such an obligation. They should prepare their presence and their decisions with respect to that sensitive and decisive role.

2. The Islamic Consultative Majles is the manifestation of the people's will and determination in the true sense of the word, and since it is formed of the people's will, its major decision-making and positions should also be according to their needs. In order to perform such a task, the esteemed representatives should be in close contact with the masses of the people and those whom they represent. They should adequately and properly recognize their rightful demands and needs and consider them in the Majles decisions.

3. Legitimacy of the Majles is in its observation of divine laws. The same applies to all organs and foundations in an Islamic system. The esteemed Majles representatives should pay appropriate attention to all Majles endorsements so that they do not contradict religious rules and regulations. In order to perform such an obligation they should use the expertise of religious scholars, previous deputies' experiences, and most importantly they should use views of the esteemed members of the Guardians Council when debating and considering bills.

4. The most important issue in organizating the country's affairs is to eradicate poverty and deprivation, and to rid the deprived and oppressed strata of the nation from the terrible injustice committed during the shah's era and to eradicate the effects of foreign domination. All economic, production, construction, and economic development programs should be directed toward this ideal. It is only in such a case that those programs can be deemed acceptable. The esteemed representatives should place this at the top of their agenda to assist the deprived.

5. The Majles of this revolution should in all cases be the messenger of the principled slogans of the revolution, and it should safegaurd the path and the line set by the founder and the architect of the revoltion, His Eminece Imam Khomeyni—may God raise his status. [deputies chant praise to prophet Mohammad and his descendants] This is the only way to achieve our dear country's salvation from the dark ages of foreign domination and the only way to cure the pains inflicted during the shah's injust rule. It will break the strings of attachments and oppression woven around this great nation's hands and feet in the past—particularly by Britain and America and their agents.

During the past 13 years, the intervening powers—who were slapped and kicked out of Iran as a result of the revolution—have tried to divert the nation and the government from this path. But they have always been defeated. The Majles—which has always been the axis and the target of the poisonous propaganda of the arrogant media and their brawling deceitful acts, in its fourth term—should at all times display in word and in practice its allegiance to the imam, who always supported the oppressed, and show its faithfulness to his path and disgust at American domination.

6. The Islamic Consultative Majles draws up the path along which the Islamic government should tread in the management of the country's affairs. It will also oversee this decisive act. Implementing this obligation is possible only with the support of the government, and cooperation and coordination with it. Today, that support and assistance becomes a clearer and more urgent duty, because the serving government is led by one of the imam's outstanding companions and one of the most remarkable contributors to the revolution, who has spent his entire life and youth for that purpose—which, of course, does not mean that the representatives should not engage in their obligation to criticize, review, and oversee, and make sympathetic criticism, and propose correct solutions.

The Majles should in any situation maintain its love of freedom, its openness, its support for right, and its independence. It should also show the correct path to the authorities and oversee that they remain in that path.

The representatives should respond to the vote of confidence that they give to the cabinet members. Obstructionism and troublemaking under the excuse of ignorance cannot be accepted.

7. The Majles is the fruit of the sacred blood of the martyrs; it is the result of the great struggles of the nation and one of the bright points of hope for all the people. Every minute of this Majles is valuable in spiritual and material terms. Nobody has the right to waste such a valuable national asset or to devote time to insignificant debates. Therefore—as far as possible—in submitting bills, the true priorities must be taken into consideration. More important and more urgent issues must be given priority. Today, a search for ways that lead to economic openings for the low-income classes and a search for laws that help improve the cultural and moral environment of the society are among priority items. It is tantamount for honorable deputies to devote serious attention to them.

8. The Islamic Majles is an open arena. It is exposed to the eyes of all Iranians, and indeed, it is open to all the peoples of the world. Live broadcasts of the Majles deliberations are among the proud achievements of the Islamic regime. It is a clear indication of the freedom of thought and speech. All representatives from all political and economic leanings can speak to every individual Iranian through the Majles platform. Such an opportunity, however, makes your duty more important. If, God forbid, a representative uses the Majles platform to say a word that is not true—or to create tension and panic among the people, or to defame or slander, or expose and reveal state secrets, or to demoralize the people—it would be sins as great as the diameter of this important place. The people would not forgive such a person. How good it would be if the honorable Majles takes the

initiative to make the necessary legal provisions to bring such irresponsible persons to their senses.

Also, in speeches and debates it is of great importance for the honorable representatives and the Majles to observe Islamic virtue, morality and politeness. The dear representatives must know that every move they make and every word they say will be reflected in society; they have special political and moral impact on the environment of the country. Undoubtedly, if signs of virtue, truth and commitment to moral values and sense of responsibility are seen in Majles debates and speeches, the country's voice will be more effective.

9. The more that precision, knowledge, and information is employed in legislation, the better and more successful the task of implementation. That clear reality will make heavier the burden of the esteemed representative's responsibility.

Evidently, the correct and wise legislation is achieved when deputies spend all the time that the Islamic Consultative Majles requires of them. Apart from attending general and committee meetings, in which they engage in debate and exchange views, they should also spend some time on reading and thinking and consulting with experts. They should also use the expertise of the trusted specialists in those committees.

Absence for unjustified reason from the working sessions of the Majles is a violation of the people's right and a disregard for people's confidence in their elected representative.

10. I recommend to the brother and sister representatives to observe virtue; to rely on God; to attend to spirituality and morality, and be obedient to God; to shun unnecessary protocol and wasteful luxuries; to refrain from factionalism; to place the interests of the country and the people above personal and factional interests; to surrender to what is right; to shun nepotism; to refrain from undue spending of the ummah's budget; to make friends with and be kind to election rivals; and to shun Satan's temptations and one's own flesh.

I offer my thanks and appreciation to the brothers and sisters who were representatives of the third Majles, especially to the honorable speaker of that Majles, who had the honor of serving in this sacred place at a very sensitive juncture in time. I hope that their services, and the services of all the serving people, to Islam and Muslims, will be accepted by God.

Peace be with you and may God's blessing be upon us. [Signed] Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i.

### Deputies Sworn In

*LD2805090192 Tehran IRNA in English 0710 GMT 28 May 92*

[Text] Tehran, May 28, IRNA—At the inaugural session of the 270-seat Majles, 267 deputies were sworn in Thursday.

According to the established formula, they declared their commitment to the Constitution of the Islamic Republic, to the achievements of the Islamic revolution, and to the good of the people.

Later, Interior Minister Abdollah Nuri-Hoseynabadi presented a summary report of the election results and of the role of his ministry for superintending the elections.

He said at the first phase of the elections, April 10, 18,803,000 of the universal adult suffrage in Iran had cast their votes into ballot boxes and that as a result of that 135 deputies had been elected from 113 constituencies.

At the second phase of the elections, May 8, he said, 7.5 million people had cast their votes at 15,188 ballot boxes. The Majles deputies this term are 125 percent more than they were at the previous terms.

### GNP Announced at 8.6 Percent

*LD2705191192 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 27 May 92*

[Excerpt] A report has just been received about the cabinet meeting this afternoon. During the session, the cabinet praised the efforts and struggles of the people's elected deputies during the third session of the Islamic Consultative Assembly [the Majles], who instigated noteworthy services in one of the crucial times in the history of the revolution and the country.

The cabinet expressed the hope that the fourth Majles session can also properly perform its historic duty for the country's benefit.

Later in the session, the Central Bank governor general, Mr. 'Adeli, gave a report about the 1370 national calender year [Iranian year from 21 March 1991 to 20 March 1992]. According to the report, the gross national product [GNP] stands at around 8.6 percent. [passage omitted]

### Paratroopers Take Part in Military Exercise

*LD2705213892 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 27 May 92*

[Unidentified correspondent report]

[Text] Paratroopers belonging to the Shiraz 55th airborne brigade performed the most spectacular jumps in Darengun, Shiraz, during the last stage of the Tabuk-5 military exercises, using Iranian-made free-fall parachutes for the first time.

Our correspondent reports about the last stage of the Tabuk-5 military exercise.

[Correspondent] The participants achieved their predetermined objectives during this military exercise, which was overseen by Major General Ali Shahbazi, chief of the

Joint Staff of the Islamic Republic of Iran [IRI] Army; Ground Forces Commander Brigadier Abdollah Najafi; and top military, security, and Revolutionary Guards Corp commanders of Fars Province.

In the exercise, four armored divisions, two infantry divisions, artillery, Army aviation, combat engineer, communications, and antichemical warfare units—as well as the Air Force fighters—participated.

During this five-day exercise, the following were performed according to standards: artillery, mortar, and rocket fire; attacks by crack units; crossing real mine fields, barbed wire, and other obstacles; support fire by Army aviation and the Air Force; helicopter-borne transfer of troops and equipment by Army aviation helicopters; constructing a pontoon bridge by the combat engineers; helicopter evacuation of the wounded; countering an enemy chemical attack; capturing targets; and consolidating captured positions.

Major General Ali Shahbazi—chief of the joint staff of the IRI Army—referred to the successful results of the exercise, saying: Training has a crucial role in enhancing combat capability, and in the past three years the IRI Army has paid special attention to this. It has endeavored to utilize the many experiences gained during the years of the holy defense [the war against Iraq], side by side with scientific training for the further readiness of the tripartite forces.

## Commentary Views U.S. Interests in Afghanistan

*NC1105125592 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 23 Apr 92 p 20*

[Hoseyn Zia'i commentary: "A Glance at the Future"]

[Text] Current developments in Afghanistan reflect a multifaceted strategic upheaval in one of the most important and oldest remaining conflicts of the cold war era.

Because of the importance of the situation in Afghanistan—which will play a significant role in the future structure of the region and the Islamic world (in Central Asia)—it has become the center of international attention, especially in the United States. The future position of Afghanistan in the new world order is a sensitive subject that has captured Washington's imagination. The nation will have to conform with United States policy in Central Asia, which is one of the world's more important regions to Iran. The region is also among the top priorities in U.S. foreign policy. The United States does not wish to see a new Islamic power in Central Asia. As the main entrance to the region, Afghanistan's future government has aroused great interest.

Afghanistan's departure from the Washington-backed UN sponsored peace process and the possibility of its joining the Islamic revolution are the main reasons for U.S. apprehension. By mobilizing its political resources, the United States is trying to play the "main role" in Afghanistan's future and to transform it into an area of influence that conforms to the objectives of its new world order in Central Asia. If the mojahedin succeeds in taking power in Afghanistan, Islam will return to one of its greatest areas of influence, with which, however, are many potential problems.

The fact is that "sectarianism" has become a "political scourge" that endangers the future of the country. Washington's attempt to expand its political influence in Kabul poses two lethal dangers that raise concern for the future of Afghanistan.

If the mojahedin wish to establish themselves in Afghanistan, they need a general, durable, and fundamental understanding of the political scene in the country. The Western political axis—Washington, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey—is seeking to project its own version of events in Afghanistan.

The United States sees Afghanistan as the key to the domination of Central Asia. In order to prevent a political form of Islam from taking shape in this area, the United States believes it is necessary to join forces with the powerful opponents of Islam's political strength in the region. Saudi Arabia, Egypt, India, and Turkey are among the main opponents of Afghanistan returning to the Islamic fold. The "final absorption" of Afghanistan into Islam's political axis—now, more than ever—requires courage, boldness, and swift action.

## Editorial: UN Silent on Iraqi Attacks on Shiites

*NC1105095892 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 22 Apr 92 pp 1, 2*

[Editorial: "The Forgotten People of Southern Iraq"]

[Text] The Baghdad regime's ground and air attacks on the Shiites in southern Iraq continue. The sounds of explosions and surface-to-air missiles being fired can be heard in various parts of that area, which is evidence of the continuing crimes the bloodthirsty Ba'thist regime is committing against the Shiites in southern Iraq.

These crimes—being perpetrated under a news blackout in the West—have caused much death and destruction. These crimes are being committed despite the threats and political sanctions imposed by international forums against the Baghdad regime. The Ba'thists spare no cruelty against the forgotten Muslims of southern Iraq. They are acting freely and possibly with the support of Western political circles.

Until approximately a year ago, these circles did not allow Iraqi helicopters or aircraft to take off from their airfields and did not allow the Ba'thist regime to interfere in a large part of southern Iraq. Their television cameras and news agencies watched the slightest Iraqi movement in southern Iraq and rapidly disseminated reports about Western allied operations to the entire world. Today, they are silent about the movement of

Iraqi armored units and the continuous attacks by Iraqi fighters against people in the same area, as though nothing were happening.

Even if it is an exaggeration to say that the Iraqis are receiving military support from their sworn enemies to crush the Muslims in southern Iraq, we can at least say that the Ba'thists' savage crimes—against both the oppressed Kurds in northern Iraq and the defenseless Muslims in southern Iraq—are being carried out with the full knowledge and consent of the Westerners and their forces in the area. These crimes and the silence surrounding them have paved the way for genocide in Iraq. Unfortunately, those who advocate human rights have closed their eyes to these crimes. The United Nations is responsible for the savage massacre of Muslims in Iraq. The Red Cross is responsible for the systematic and horrific massacre of Shiites in southern Iraq. Every international organization and forum and every regime that armed the oppressive and bloodthirsty Ba'thist regime in Baghdad for a decade are accomplices to the crimes being perpetrated by this regime and should answer to the world. The United Nations and other world forums demand that governments and nations respect international laws, commitments, and decisions; if so, they should react to the horrific crimes being perpetrated by a regime that does not respect law, public opinion, civilization, or democracy. Then the world will be a more healthy place, where people can lead a respectable life and not think they are living in an age of medieval horror and barbarism.

### Editorial Views Tehran's Position in Central Asia

*NC0305112092 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 22 Apr 92 p 2*

[Editorial: "Iran and the Central Asian Republics"]

[Text] Following the collapse of the former USSR, 15 independent states were born out of the remains of what once was a superpower. Among these newly born countries, Iran is willing to expand ties with the seven situated in north of Iran, namely the Central Asian republics: Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Armenia. Since their independence, ranking political, cultural and economic delegations from the republics and Iran have exchanged visits and signed joint cooperation agreements. With the cooperation of the six Muslim Asian republics in the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)—in which Iran plays an important geo-political role because it is situated between Turkey and Pakistan—ties between Iran and the new republics have entered a new phase.

A glance at Central Asia's map indicate that all of these republics are landlocked. They do not have access to free waters. For international trade, they have to rely on a neighboring country. This role can be played by the Islamic Republic of Iran in view of its cultural and social relations with the Muslim states dating back thousands of years.

Of course Turkey has also been looking in the same direction and Ankara is actively establishing its foothold in the region. Turks began their campaign by broadcasting television signals for the Azeris to propagate western culture and secularism.

Regardless of its cultural activities, one major geopolitical obstacle exists between Turkey and the six Muslim republics—Armenia. An age old hostility exists between the Turks and Armenians because of the massacre of Armenians in 1915 by the Turks. Thus it is very unlikely at least in the near future that the Republic of Armenia will allow the Turks to have land access to Azerbaijan and consequently other Central Asian states. In comparison to Ankara, Tehran's position is better. It has land boundaries with three of the republics and can directly establish sea links with Kazakhstan via the Caspian Sea. With the completion of the double-track railroad which will connect the Persian Gulf port city of Bandar-e 'Abbas via Bafq to Iran's nationwide railway network and eventually Central Asia, these newly independent states can have access to warm and free waters.

It should be noted that the West is trying to minimize Iran's influence in the region through its NATO ally, Turkey. With the political backing of the West, specially the U.S., Turkey is competing with Iran to spread its influence in the strategic region primarily to encounter the Islamic values advocated by Iran. Tehran should be vigilant and match Ankara's actions and at the same time work to expand and consolidate ties with the said republics in the political, economic and cultural spheres.

## Pakistan

### Desire for 'Cooperative' Ties With India Noted

*BK2705165292 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] Pakistan has reiterated its commitment to the policy of working for a tension-free good neighborly and cooperative relationship with India and hopes that the process of dialogue will continue. A Foreign Office spokesman told newsmen in Islamabad today Pakistan believes that a peaceful settlement of outstanding disputes, particularly the Kashmir dispute, is a fundamental and essential condition for the improvement of relations between Pakistan and India. He expressed the hope that the prime ministers of the two countries will meet in Rio de Janeiro on 13 June as scheduled and exchange views on outstanding issues. The spokesman expressed the hope that the regrettable incidences of expulsion of diplomats from each other's country will not affect the process of dialogue between Pakistan and India. He described as highly regretable the Indian action to expel two Pakistani diplomats from its embassay in New Delhi. India did so in retaliation for the Pakistani Government's decision to declare the counselor in the Indian high commission in Islamabad persona non grata. He said Pakistan's action was based on undeniable involvement in objectionable activities in violation of the accepted norms of diplomatic conduct. India did not make any such allegations against the Pakistani diplomats showing that its action was purely retaliatory. In reply to a question, the spokesman said due to procedural norms it was not possible for the government of Pakistan to grant permission to the Indian military aircraft to land in Islamabad to evacuate the counselor who was declared persona non grata. However, he said, Pakistan has told India that it is ready to grant a landing permit to its civilian aircraft for this purpose.

### Spokesman on Policy of 'Tension-Free' Indian Ties

*BK2705122292 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1100 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] Pakistan has reiterated its commitment to the policy of working for a tension-free good neighborly and cooperative relationship with India and hoped that the process of dialogue will continue. A Foreign Office spokesman told newsmen in Islamabad today that Pakistan believed that a peaceful settlement of outstanding disputes, particularly the Kashmir dispute is an inescapable condition for the improvement of Pakistan-India relations. He was sure that the prime minister, Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, would have further meetings with his Indian counterpart for improvement of relations and settlement of outstanding disputes, particularly Kashmir dispute. He was also hopeful that the prime ministers of Pakistan and India would meet as scheduled in Rio de Janeiro on the 13th of next month. The spokesman regretted the Indian decision to postpone the sixth round of foreign secretary-level talks scheduled to take place in New Delhi from 31st of this month, but hoped it would be rescheduled at the earliest opportunity.

### Sharif, Afghanistan's Mojaddedi Hold Talks

*BK2705160492 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] Formal talks between the prime minister, Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, and the president of Islamic State of Afghanistan, Professor Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, were held in Islamabad today. The prime minister welcomed Mr. Mojaddedi and congratulated Afghan leadership on the success of jehad and efforts for peace and normalcy. As in the jehad, Pakistan would extend all possible assistance in the task of rehabilitation and reconstruction of Afghanistan. Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif hoped that relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan will grow from strength to strength. Pakistan side proposed the establishment of a joint ministerial commission between Pakistan and Afghanistan. The prime minister suggested that the two countries should exchange delegations to assess immediate needs of Afghanistan with special reference to the establishment of telecommunication links and restoration of road and air links.

Professor Sebghatollah Mojaddedi said that the brotherly relations between the two countries will expand with each passing day and will be a source of great strength to the Islamic ummah and peace in the region. He said Afghanistan will soon join the Economic Cooperation Organization. The talks, lasting for one and half hours, were followed by a meeting between the ministers of foreign affairs, finance, and commerce of the two countries.

Addressing a news conference in Islamabad today, Professor Sebghatollah Mojaddedi said there is now peace in Kabul and other provinces of Afghanistan. Life is normal, people are attending their work and the government offices are functioning. The prime minister, Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, was also present at the press conference. The Afghanistan president thanked the Government and people of Pakistan, especially the president and the prime minister, for their assistance in the 13 years of Afghan struggle of liberation.

[Begin Mojaddedi recording] I am very grateful for His Excellency President of Pakistan and His Excellency Prime Minister of Pakistan that they have assisted us and they have supported our cause, all the people of Pakistan and the government in this 13, 14 years of our struggle against the Soviet Union invasion in Afghanistan, and also for the establishment of an Islamic government in Afghanistan. We have tried our best and alhamdo lillah [praise be to God], in the last days we have succeeded to agree on an Islamic government and then we left Pakistan for Kabul the same day which the former government had decided to transfer the power to our government, and alhamdo lillah, with the blessings of Allah Zilla Shanahu [Glory be to God, the Protector], we got the power. And even we have many problems in Kabul; in the first days we had no electricity, no water, the lack of food material, the people could not come from their homes, there were firings and some missile, rockets were used; some buildings were destroyed; but alhamdo lillah, in one week, everything was recovered and plenty of food material came with the assistance of Pakistan Government, especially His Excellency the prime minister offered about 10,000 tons of wheat for us; and also we repaired the electricity pillars which had been broken by rockets, the water came, and the prices came down; and many people are surprised how in one week it could be done. [end recording]

Referring to the prime minister's role for ensuring lasting peace in Afghanistan, Professor Sebghatollah Mojaddedi said that we had gained a lot because of Mr. Nawaz Sharif's unforgettable efforts.

[Begin Mojaddedi recording] Pakistan Government and people, they were assisting us in 13 years. They were not going to interfere in our internal affairs, but their advices, their consultations—these were very useful for us all the time. The prime minister himself, His Excellency, spent lot of time with our brothers, our colleagues and leaders; maybe one night, up to the dawn they were sitting only for this purpose, requesting that, please, you have to decide something about the government, because the Najibollah is gone, Najibollah government is ready to transfer the power. But, unfortunately, the leaders were not going to agree on this. [words indistinct] agreement. But, this was their request and they tried their best to convince these leaders that please do something. [end recording]

Replying to a question, the Afghan president said he fully supports the right of self-determination of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, which is guaranteed under Islamic and international laws. The outstanding issue of Kashmir should be resolved under the United Nations resolutions.

## Mojaddedi Comments on 'Close' Relations

*BK2705122692 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1100 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] The president of the interim Islamic government of Afghanistan, Professor Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, has said that a free, independent, and nonaligned Afghanistan will continue its close relations with Pakistan. He was addressing a news conference in Islamabad this afternoon. The prime minister, Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, was also present. Prof. Mojaddedi said he has (?had) useful exchange of views with President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and the prime minister which had further strengthened brotherly ties between the two countries. About Kashmir, Prof. Mojaddedi said in an unambiguous term that the problem must be resolved peacefully in accordance with the UN resolutions as self-determination right could not be denied to any people.

Earlier, in his brief welcoming remarks, the prime minister expressed his happiness that the Afghan jehad has succeded as a result of which an interim government is in place in Afghanistan.

## Spokesman Welcomes Mas'ud-Hekmatyar Accord

*BK2705160892 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] A foreign office spokesman said in Islamabad today that Pakistan welcomes any agreement between any Afghan parties which helps to strengthen peace, harmony, and stability in Afghanistan. Referring to the recent agreement between Mr. Ahmed Shah Mas'ud and Mr. Golboddin Hekmatyar, he said it appears that the agreement will make a significant contribution for making progress in that direction. However, he said, Pakistan deems it solely an internal affair of various Afghan parties and groups, who want to resolve their mutual differences peacefully and cordially to restore peace in Afghanistan and enable the Afghan people to devote all their efforts for the reconstruction of their country.

## ECO Favors Afghanistan Membership

*BK2605074292 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0600 GMT 26 May 92*

[Text] Pakistan, Iran, and Turkey have agreed in principle to sign a trilateral protocol for promotion of commercial shipping among the member-countries of the Economic Cooperation Organization [ECO]. This was stated by Mohammad Siddique Khan Kanjoo, the minister of state for foreign affairs, while answering a question from Mian Mohammad Yasin Khan Wattoo during the question hour in the National Assembly today. In reply to another question, the minister of state expressed the hope that Tajikistan will join the ECO. He added that any request from Afghanistan for the organization's membership, because of its proximity to ECO member-states, will also be welcomed.

## Concern Expressed for Muslims in Bosnia

*LD2205143792 Tehran IRNA in English 1159 GMT 22 May 92*

[Text] Islamabad, May 12, IRNA—The Deputy Foreign Minister of Pakistan Shahryar Khan disclosed to the Iranian Ambassador Javad Mansuri here last night, that Islamabad was considering calling back its ambassador from Belgrade for consultation.

Pakistan was concerned about the large-scale brutality of the Yugoslav Federal Army against Muslim citizens in Bosnia-Hercegovina (B-H), he said.

Earlier, the Pakistani Foreign Ministry had summoned the Yugoslav ambassador in Islamabad to sound protest against the mass killing of Muslim civilians in Bosnia.

Mansuri drawing attention to the statement of the secretary-general of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), concerning the massacre of Muslims in B-H by the Yugoslav Army, called for more attention and proper steps on the part of the Pakistan Government towards the issue.

He also briefed Shahryar Khan on the latest developments in the Karabakh conflict between the Caucasus Republics of Armenia and Azerbaijan.

## Ministers Speak on Law, Order in Sindh

*BK2705154492 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] The National Assembly today continued debate on the Sindh situation. In all, 24 members participated in the discussion in the morning session. The members described the situation in Sindh as grave and called for concerted efforts to find a political solution to the problem. Both the government and the opposition should sit together to chalk out a plan to bring an end to lawlessness, dacoities [robberies], and subversion. Mutual hatred and acrimony should be removed to usher in an era of love, peace, and brotherhood. This is the only way to provide relief to the common man who has been badly hit by the deteriorating law and order situation. Some members were of the view that the government was left with no option but to use the Army, but said maximum restraint should be exercised to ensure that the operation is accordance with the Constitution and the law. The people of Sindh should have a feel that the operation is against dacoits and criminals. Some of the members were of the view that the deployment of Army in Sindh willl not serve any useful purpose. The members suggested should be made to bring an end to the sense of deprivation of the people of Sindh.

The minister for religious affairs, Maulana Abdul Sattar Khan Niazi, urged all political forces in Sindh to join hands to bring an end to the lawlessness in the province.

The defense minister, Syed Ghaus Ali Shah suggested that opposition should sit with the treasury members to work out a strategy for the improvement of law and order situation in Sindh. The situation, he said, demands urgent action. Therefore, the government cannot wait any more to allow the criminals and subversive elements to continue their nefarious activities. The government, he said, wanted action in accordance with law and the Constitution. Every action will be taken after consultation, coordination, and cooperation with the Sindh government.

The minister of state for special education, Mr. Javed Hashmi, said nobody should try to take political advantage out of the Sindh situation. The minister for information and broadcasting, Mr. Abdul Sattar Lalika, said our Armed Forces are the defenders of our frontiers. At the same time, they wanted to see peace and tranquillity within the country. He said if the government has entrusted a certain responsibility to the Army in Sindh, it is due to the fact that they are our patriotic brethren. He said the government is firmly of the view that they are not going to complicate but to solve the issue.

## Khan on Need To Exploit Nuclear Energy

*BK2605124792 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 26 May 92 pp 1, 2*

[Text of President Ghulam Ishaq Khan At Pakistan Institute of Nuclear Science and Technology, Islamabad, 25 May]

[Text] It is indeed a pleasure to visit this great institute set against such beautiful surroundings, and to join you on this happy occasion of commemoration of 25 years of scientific activity at PINSTECH [Pakistan Institute of Nuclear Science and Technology].

The nuclear scientists present here will recall that this year also marks the 50th anniversary of the Manhattan Project which was conceived to harness the enormous potential of nuclear fission for the production of a decisive weapon to put a swift end to a dreadful war. In contrast, the raison d'etre of PINSTECH ab initio was to put the newly demonstrated power of atom to peaceful uses: And this, as we have just heard, has done with notable success.

I am looking forward to inaugurating today your redesigned and rejuvenated research reactor which would now operate at enhanced power and continue to serve as a major facility for many more years to come.

I am of course, no stranger here and your acheivements are not unknown to me. I have always taken pride in PINSTECH's being a beacon for the country's scientific and technological endeavours and especially in the remarkable manner in which it has helped nourish, sustain and advance our peaceful nuclear programme. Deserving of special mention is the signal contribution it has made to the Commission's pioneering effort to develop fuel cycle facilities. The establishment of these facilities was a hi-tech venture. Starting with mining of uranium and zirconium, it involved sophisticated processes of refining, processing, physical and chemical characterisation culminating in the domestic manufacture of fuel for research and power reactors. I understand that the industrial use of radiation processing, which has been commercialised at PARAS in Lahore, also owes its basic development to PINSTECH. You have indeed served as a Mother Institute' and supplied manpower, expertise and information to all the nuclear establishments in the country and, I add with pride, blossomed, over the years, into an outstanding centre of nuclear research, without parallel in the entire Muslim world.

And today, when PINSTECH has successfully accomplished the scientific and technological feat of upgradation of its 1965-vintage research reactor and its conversion to operate on low enriched uranium, I—indeed the entire nation—has found an additional reason to be justifiably proud of the ingenuity, dexterity, expertise and missionary zeal of its scientists and engineers. It is indeed an achievement of far-reaching significance and a major milestone in the indigenization of nuclear technology that the entire design and construction work, including control and instrumentation, was undertaken locally and the whole exercise completed in a record time of about one year. This success is indicative of our ability and capacity to undertake highly sophisticated scientific projects on our own, which assumes particular importance when viewed in the context of an international environment where advance technologies are kept close to the chest or humiliating strings are attached to their transfer. I offer my heartiest felicitations to all those associated with this achievement of tremendous import.

It is said that science was born out of man's curiosity to know the nature of things around him and to understand events taking place in the universe. While this curosity is natural to mankind, it is made more intense among the Muslims by their religion which repeatedly exhorts them to 'think' and 'reflect' and try to comprehend the wonders and secrets of the cosmos and of biological existence. Islam's inspiration for scientific investigation served as a catalyst for the Muslims' spirit of enquiry and their urge for discovery in the heydays of their civilisation. They made revolutionary contribution to scientific thought and activity at a time when elsewhere the pursuit of science was considered a taboo and punished like witchcraft. This contribution is fairly well documented and it is now recognised that from the eighth to the twelfth century the Muslims played a pioneering role and laid the foudations of "observational" and "experimental" techniques.

But what a contrast between our past and the present! As I had pointed out at the COMSTECH [Committee on Science and Technology of Islamic Conference Organization] meeting last year, those who liberated the human mind and taught man to think rationally and scientifically have themselves become prisoners of frivolous thoughts, fatalistic attitudes and suffocating inaction. Those who led the world in the Medieval Age have lagged behind even in following it into the Modern Age. They have few science institutions. They invest little in scientific research. Their share in the growth of modern science and technology is minimal.

To illustrate how dismally the Muslims have detached themselves from science and technology let me repeat here some of the statistics I quoted at the COMSTECH meeting. The Islamic World today has only one scientist per thousand of population as against 100 in the former USSR, 50 in Western Europe and the world average of four. Of all the scientists and technologist currently engaged worldwide in Research and Development, almost 94 per cent work for the developed nations, giving them an average of around 2,600 per million of population as compared to less than 100 in the Islamic World. Of the total world investment in R&D nearly 97 per cent is made by the advanced countries and only about one percent by Muslim nations despite the so-called oil wealth. Of the estimated one hundred thousand scientific books and over two milliion articles produced in the world every year, the share of all Muslim countries taken together is only little over a thousand publications, most of them, I believe are published in Pakistan.

Against this desolate backdrop of apathy and indifference towards scientific pursuits prevalent in the Muslim World, it should give us some satisfaction that the unmistakable relevance to development of scientific education and research and the inescapable urgency to produce qualified scientific manpower are increasingly gaining practical appreciation in Pakistan. I must hasten to add that this appreciation still has a long way to go to create the mental climate and cultural ambience needed to engender a scientific and technological revolution. Without such a metamorphosis we may not be able to repay the oustanding debts of the twentieth century. What to speak of meeting the challenges of the twenty-first.

However, it augurs well for a confident future that an elaborate programme has been launched for the last few years to train young scientists and engineers abroad in hi-tech fields to augment and upgrade the science and technology potential of the country. There are of course, islands of excellence within the country as well. Some fine educational institutions, such as HEJ Institute of Chemistry. And certain research Laboratories and Institutes like PINSTECH and the neighbouring Centre for Nuclear Studies stand out as shining examples of what can be accomplished by dynamic leadership, englightened direction and dedicated workers. The under-construction Insitute of Engineering Sciences and Technology near Tarbela is expected to be a most valuable addition to the nation's efforts at human resource development in the field of science and technology.

Pakistan's quest for acquisition of modern technology is motivated solely by its desire to modernise its society, develop national resources, accelerate economic growth and improve human conditions. This desire stems from our right as a sovereign state and is rooted in our obligation to give our people a better life. It is a perfectly legitimate desire to which no one-unless he has a totally perverse sense of justice-can object. Science is an international activity. It knows no boundaries and cannot be the exclusive prerogative of a selected few. The vast fund of knowledge accumulated by mankind through centuries of mental application, research and experience is humanity's common heritage. Not every nation has rediscovered the wheel to itself. Practically all knowledge is inherited, borrowed, copied or even stolen from a reservoir that belongs to all mankind. Access to it must not be denied to any people or else human civilisation will come to stagnate. If humanity is to keep marching ahead in peace and harmony, as has been the ardour of all its best sons and daughters, attempts at locking knowledge in safe deposit vaults will have to be renounced. If the inequities that divide the world into zones of affluence and deprivation, causing constant friction, are not intended to be eternally perpetuated, the highly possessive attitude of the 'Haves' towards transfer of technology will have to be eschewed. If a new "kinder" and "gentler" world order is really sought to be created hearts and minds will have to be "opener" and helping hands stretched farther.

A less-possessive, if not generous, attitude is particularly needed towards technologies which have proven capability to solve some of the most daunting problems hampering socio economic development in Third World countries. Nuclear technology tops the list. The miracles it can work in such fields as power generation, agricultural productivity and medical care and as a cleaner and plentiful substitute generally for fossil fuels are too well known to need elaboration. Equally well known is the inexorable opposition to the developing nations' access to it even for such peaceful usages as are common place phenomena in developed countries. The stock excuse is that it can be abused for military purposes. But then which technology cannot be put to dual use and has not been so abused? Should the black smith's kiln be put out because, together with horseshoes, it can also help cast swords? If Hiroshima was the fearsome statement of the destructive power of nuclear fission, its constructive capabilities are no less convincingly demonstrated in well-lit houses, in pollution-free factories, in blooming agricultural fields and in healing hospitals. Hiroshimas and Nagasakis must never happen again. But the houses, the factories, the fields and the hospitals must not be deprived of what they so desperatedly need.

Why should the poor of the Third World be punished for sins they never committed? The bombs that devastated Hiroshima and flattened Nagasaki were not hatched by the "unstable countries" and the "irresponsible minds" of the Third World Leader who, on receiving a telegram on board the cruiser Augusta informing him that the attack on Hiroshima was a complete success, exclaimed: "This is the greatest thing. It is time to return home!"

Not all shared such amoral elation on having put a weapon of incalculable power into the hands of man. As Bertrand Russel tells us, about two months before Hiroshima, "seven of the most eminent of nuclear scientists drew up what is known as 'The Franck Report' which they presented to the Secretary of War.... If it had won the assent of politicians, none of our subsequent terrors would have arisen. It points out that the success which we (the Americans) have achieved in the development of nuclear power is fraught with infinitely greater dangers than were all the inventions of the past.... If no efficient international agreement is achieved, the race for nuclear armaments will be on in earnest, not later than the morning after our first demonstration of the existence of nuclear weapons. After this, it might take other nations three or four years to over come our present head start." This was not an isolated expression of opinion. It was a majority opinion among those who had created the bomb. Neils Bohr—after Einstein, the most eminent of physicists at that time—approached both Churchill and Roosevelt with earnest appeals in the same sense, but neither paid any attention. When Roosevelt died, Bohr's appeal lay unopened on his desk."

The point I wish to make is that those who could have spared mankind its worst fears did not listen to the voice of sanity when it was time. And now that the horse has bolted out of the stable, attempts are being made to close the stable doors—through embargoes arm twistings and 'surgical operations' It has however, to be realised that no effort can uninvent what has been invented. Prometheus might have been punished for ever but 'Fire' as a phenomenon continues to exist.

Pakistan does not believe in the spread of fire. Pakistan was among the first nations to support the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Its commitment to non-proliferation even today is no less serious and genuine than anybody else's. However, we believe that the cherished and noble goal of non-proliferation must not degenerate into an essay in evolving a technical fix or a ploy to eternise technological imperialism, denying the fruits of science to those who genuinely want to use them for peaceful purposes.

The answer to nuclear proliferation does not lie in putting the technology under a bushel. It lies in removing the causes of tension in inter-state relations and in creating a sense of security among all through non-discriminatory measures and even-handed policies based on the principles of justice and equal respect for sovereignty. I cannot resist the temptation to quote here the last sentence of Richard Nixon's latest book "Seize the Moment". He advises: We must seize the moment not just for ourselves but for others. Only if this becomes a better world for others will it be a better world for us, and only when we participate in a cause greater than ourselves can we be fully true to ourselves". Let's hope his great nation listens to his words of great wisdom.

Here I must offer our special thanks to those of our friends who have shown full confidence in Pakistan's sense of responsibility and its commitment to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. The recently concluded agreement under which China has contracted to supply a 300-MW nuclear power plant to Pakistan, under IAEA safeguards, is a major step forward in the development of nuclear power which is badly needed to suipplement our conventional energy resources and also to provide a measure of diversification in power generation technology. Although it is largely a turn-key contract, I understand that transfer of technology has been specifically provided for, and there would be substantial participation of Pakistan's engineers, scientists and technical staff in the design and construction of the plant. This experience, coupled with that gained at KANUPP [Karachi Nuclear Power Plant] and here at PINSTECH, will provide us expertise as well as the confidence to further indigenise our nuclear power programme.

It will not be out of place here to make a brief comment on Nuclear Safety, which has commanded worldwide attention since the unfortunate Chernobyl accident. The PAEC [Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission] is rightly placing high emphasis on Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection, and on upgrading the already stringent safety requirements on nuclear and radiation industry. I am told the commission has enhanced its safety procedures at establishments like KANUPP to the full satisfaction of IAEA experts. I expect that KANUPP will receive local and international support to enable it not only to continue to work safely and efficiently but also to remain operative for many years beyond its design life.

I would like to take this opportunity to emphasize, once again, the peaceful nature of Pakistan's nuclear programme. In spite of serious resource constraints, we have been able to develop basic infrastructure in terms of technology, training facilities, R&D institutions and production units, for embarking upon a modest nuclear programme and have as a natural corollary, acquired a high degree of technical expertise and capability. However, in consonance with its commitment to non-proliferation, Pakistan would not transfer sensitive nuclear technology to third countries. Our programme is designed to meet our pressing energy requirements and to derive other benefits associated with the development and use of nuclear technology.

It would be unfair and unrealistic to expect Pakistan to unilaterally forego the development of its peaceful nuclear programme and capabilities in response to so-called non-proliferation pleas. We deem it a sovereign right of nations to develop the entire gamut of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes. However, we have taken a political decision to use this technical capability for peaceful purposes only. Pakistan has no interest in nuclear weapons. The only conceivable legitimate function of nuclear weapons is to deter nuclear attack and if nations can be assured of their security, the need for nuclear weapons will not arise.

Nevertheless, with a view to furthering the cause of non-proliferation, Pakistan has made from time to time a number of proposals, which are a matter of international record. These include the latest proposal of a Five Nation Conference. We are ever willing to hold multilateral discussions, or enter into a dialogue, towards evolving an effective, equitable and non-discriminatory arrangement for ensuring nuclear non-proliferation in the South Asian region.

Coming back to PINSTECH, I am sure, you are fuly cognizant of the enormous challenges ahead of you. The newly emerging technologies will be very demanding in terms of quality manpower. This Institute has the obligation to provide a lead not just in nuclear projects but also, in consort with others, in broader scientific ventures. It is only through a concerted effort guided by the objective of self-reliance that we can achieve meaningful progress and sustainable prosperity and emerge as a strong and developed nation.

In the end let me again offer my sincere felicitations to you all on the Silver Jubilee of PINSTECH and wish you greater successes in future. Your services to the nation are too valuable to be appropriately rewarded. Even so, only as a token of recognition. I am glad to announce a collective honorarium of five million rupees for the PINSTECH employees.

Pakistan paindabad [Long Live Pakistan]

## Discusses Quest for Technology

*BK2505090392 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 25 May 92*

[Text] President Ghulam Ishaq Khan has declared that Pakistan's quest for acquisition of modern technology is motivated formally by its desire to modernize its society, develop national resources, accelerate economic growth, and improve human resources. He was speaking at an inauguration of the redesigned and upgraded research reactor of 10 megawatts indigenously at the Pakistan Institute of Nuclear Science and Technology in Islamabad this morning [sentence as heard]. He made it clear that this desire stemmed from our right as a sovereign state and was rooted in our obligation to give people a better life. The president reaffirmed that Pakistan did not believe in the spread of nuclear weapons and it was among the first nations to (?pursue) nuclear nonproliferation even today with no less serious and genuine [stance] than any other country. However, he said the cherished and model goal of nonproliferation must not degenerate into an essay in avoiding a technical (?switch) or ploy to eternize technological imperialism, denying the fruits of science to those who genuinely want to use them for peaceful purposes.

## Paper Notes PRC Stance on Nuclear Issue

*BK2405103992 Peshawar THE FRONTIER POST in English 24 May 92 p 10*

[Editorial: "China Defiant"]

[Text] China has exploded a nuclear device of a million tons of TNT at Lop Nor and the shock-waves from it have reached Washington. Beijing has rejected the American protest against the explosion (it was many times bigger than the ceiling agreed in a previous Soviet-U.S. treaty) by saying that China is not bound by any treaty about tests. It has also stated that its promised signatures to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) have not actually been affixed, and therefore no other nuclear regime is applicable to it under law. The Chinese spokesman has also revived his country's old stand that all nuclear-weapon states should get together to renounce testing to get China to stop its own testing. China is considered one of the five powers whose nuclear arsenals are considered legitimate, but it has not signed the NPT. After France signed it earlier this year, China remains the only nuclear power outside of the ambit of the NPT regime meant to restrain export of bomb technology. Last year, China had agreed to sign two treaties to reassure the Western world that its nuclear arsenal was not for export: the NPT and MTC (Missile Technology Control). This promise seemed to be in return for the Most Favoured Nation status granted to it in the U.S. on whom it has a 14 billion dollars of trade surplus, in addition to a two billion dollar surplus against EC. Thereafter, the Western pressure on Beijing to open up its domestic market to American and Western exports had mounted; the U.S. had also targeted China under its Trade Law to force it to pay for the patents and other intellectual property it was using. It now appears that China has decided to defy the pressure. It seems to believe that the international environment evolving today is not friendly towards it, and that its security might be thretened by a policy of persistent submission to pressures from outside. While the Chinese leadership is steadily adopting free-market mechanisms to improve the country's economy, it is threatened by internal calls for more democratic freedom. Seeing the upheavals caused by democratisation and free market in Eastern Europe and the Balkans, it may be fearing similar upheavals in regions inhabited by non-Chinese populations after the loosening of the central control by its communist leadership.

This is a reversal to the post-Gulf war Western policy of international arms control. China's ambiguous stance on the NPT will strenthen the Indian resolve to stand aside from it unless the NPT gives it nuclear power status. Its stance on the universal removal of nuclear arsenals and test ban is similar to China's. New Delhi has shocked the West by the successful launching of its first space vehicle and is poised to test its intermediate range missile Agni which can carry nuclear payload. India too has been under pressure from the West and the U.S. to renounce its nuclear ambitions, stop the development of missiles and pay for American patents under the trade law. Pakistan, which fears war with India, has also been defying the American pressure to unilaterally renounce its nuclear ambitions and open its programme to full safeguards under the NPT. The deadlock was sought to be resolved through a five-power multilateral conference on a nuclear regime for South Asia which India has been rejecting so far. The pressure behind this multilateral conference was built up through a consensus reached by Washington with Russia and China. Russians too are beginning to get out of this consensus by refusing to accept an American embargo on the export of its missiles to India. This "revolt" may have adverse effect on the readiness of North Korea to open all its nuclear installations to inspection, which it has so far refused. Two instances of nuclear renunciation, one by South Africa and the other recently by Kazakhstan, might therefore not take root as precedents in the policy of freeing the world of proliferation. China's latest stance seems to be a defiant answer to excessive manipulation by the Americans in the realm of Chinese economic policy and politics of democracy. At home, the American President is facing an increasingly angry electorate which connects domestic economic decline to Washington's excessive involvement abroad under the rubric of New World Order. The world seems to prove that the bipolar cold war era is gradually giving way to a multipolar era without any rules of the game. The coming years promise a great deal of disturbance as global trade gets divided among blocs and some countries endeavour to realise their big power dreams in various regions.

### Joint Naval Exercise Conducted With France

*BK2405162192 Hong Kong AFP in English 1607 GMT 24 May 92*

[Text] Islamabad, May 24 (AFP)—French and Pakistani warships have conducted joint exercises in the blue waters off Pakistan's southern port of Karachi, the French Embassy said here Sunday.

The frigate Jean de Vienne, destroyer Commandant Ducuing and repair and maintenance ship Jules Verne, from the French Naval forces in the Indian Ocean, participated in the games Saturday, the embassy said.

French Brequet-Atlantic patrol aircraft also joined the exercises.

The warships, which are equipped with sophisticated weaponry including Exocet ship-to-ship and Crotale anti-aircraft missiles, had sailed into the Karachi Harbour on May 18.

The games reflected the "further development" of the already close relations between the Armed Forces, particularly the Navies, of the two countries, the embassy said.

The chief of the French Armed Forces, Admiral Jacques Lanxade, reaffirmed France's willingness to increase cooperation with Pakistan during his recent visit here.

### Sharif Returns After Private Visit to New York

*BK2505144692 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 25 May 92*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, returned to Islamabad from New York after a two-day private visit. On his way back, he made a brief stopover in London. During the prime minister's stay in London, the MQM [Muhajir Qaumi Movement] leader, Mr. Altaf Hussain, called on him at the Pakistan High Commission. Issues of national importance and matters relating to political affairs were discussed in the meeting.

## Sri Lanka

### Premadasa: Elements Working To Subvert Democracy

*BK2705140892 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0825 GMT 27 May 92*

["OANA/pool" Item]

[Text] Colombo, May 27 (LANKAPUVATH)—President Ranasinghe Premadasa at Buttala on Monday warned the people against "certain disgruntled elements" conspiring to subvert democracy in the country. Wednesday's DAILY NEWS states he charged that some conspirators were resorting to subversion and sabotage in the guise of JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna] terrorists.

Addressing a large public rally held at Buttala to mark the opening of the third garment factory under the 200 garment factories program, the president said that "a vicious campaign to vilify the government was already underway. They are using scurrilous leaflets and seditious posters for this purpose. Meanwhile some others frustrated in their attempts to amass wealth through contracts and corrupt practices are hatching plots to undermine the government through Kattivadaya (sectionalism). They want to destroy me and the UNP [United National Party] and are unconcerned that the people will suffer as a result." "Those who throw giniwatura (acid) from ambush, organise sly petitions and stab from behind are cowards. This country is a democracy. You can do anything in the open. There is freedom for any legitimate activity. In politics what is secret is only the ballot," said the president.

The president said that the poor who once depended on government doles for their sustenance were fast becoming self-reliant, thanks to the government programs. "Our determination is to heal the sore of poverty for good. But those who exploit this sore for their political survival want it to fester. They are like blue bottles feeding on a festering wound. They are now out to wound the government and are hatching conspiracies against it." The president recalled that he had with him the aborted impeachment petition when he came to Maligawila to unveil the restored Buddha statue on September 1, last year. "On that occasion I had some intuition that the bid by conspirators to send me home would fail and conspirators themselves would get their due deserts. What I felt came to pass later. The fate that befell those who authored the impeachment bid, is in store for even others who are still planning any ouster. They can end my political career only by killing me. I can assure the people that I will not allow conspirators to harm them so long as I am in the saddle", the president vowed.

### President Announces Measures To Boost Exports

*BK2705141092 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 27 May 92*

[Text] President Ranasinghe Premadasa has announced the declaration of the Decade of Exports. The 1992 year of exports will be the first year of this decade. The president said that a national steering committee will plan and execute the program of the Decade of Exports. This was announced by the president when he addressed the Export Development Council of Ministers at the Presidential Secretariat yesterday.

He told the ministers that the country's growth rate is projected to improve considerably this year, while the government's efforts to promote and diversify exports are also expected to show results. The benefits of an enhanced investment of 12 billion rupees in 1991 in export development should be felt this year. On the proposed national steering committee, the president said that it would be reporting to the Council of Ministers. He said that as a developing country on the path to accelerate its growth, Sri Lanka needs capital and intermediate goods. This need will intensify in proportion to growth.

He further noted that under the liberalized trade system, the government meets consumer needs through imports wherever domestic supplies fail to meet the demand sufficiently. In this context, the president stressed that we cannot, must not be ever returned to the era of queues, rations, and coupons. The country is now moving rapidly toward further liberalized trade, and exchange controls are to be deregulated. The national skills and technology are also growing fast and the international marketing abilities are being strengthened. The president also stressed the need to have surplus export earnings over imports. The government has created the opportunity for entrepreneurs to engage in third-country trade and in transshipment business. Sri Lanka is now an emerging center for ship repairing, refurnishing and ship building. The country is able to provide professional services abroad in the same manner as it is making available manpower overseas. The president said that they can offer these services in package form at competitive rates. Sri Lanka's tourist attractions are barely tapped. In this context, the president said that the national steering committee and all agencies involved in it forthwith must explore and exploit the fullest potential of Sri Lanka with equal attention being paid to traditional and nontraditional sectors. The committee should devise innovative strategies in carrying out this task. He stressed the need to move forward and gradually to higher wage, higher technology, and higher value-added industries.

### Export Goals Named

*BK2305114892 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 23 May 92*

[Text] Sri Lanka's national export development plan drawn up by the EDB [Export Development Board] is targeted to achieve an annual average growth rate of 10.3 percent by exports by the year 1994. A spokesman for the EDB told LANKAPUVATH that the investment in export-oriented projects should be 6 billion rupees per annum if the country is to achieve this target. Investment in export-oriented projects was 3 billion rupees per annum during the year 1990. But it was increased to 12 billion rupees in the year 1991. These investments were mainly from the Greater Colombo Economic Commission. The EDB spokesman said that Sri Lanka expects a most successful growth rate in exports this year. The targeted growth rate for this year will be around 9 percent as against the year 1991. This target is very likely to be achieved through increased foreign exchange earnings from the export of tea and the very good performance of the government and manufacturing sectors.

### Country Said Poised for Investment Boom

*BK2705115192 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0816 GMT 27 May 92*

["OANA/pool" Item]

[Text] Colombo, May 27 (LANKAPUVATH)—Sri Lanka is now poised for an investment boom based on private sector initiative. This would mean that private foreign capital will have to play a larger role in undertaking investment than had been the case in the past, Dr. Neville Karunatilleke, governor of the Central Bank, said on Monday. He said that an important drive in this direction commenced in late 1991 with the Sri Lanka investment forum organised by the GCEC [Greater Colombo Economic Commission], which is now the sole authority for promoting foreign and local investment in the country. Wednesday's DAILY NEWS states the accent on economic policy in the recent past has centered on further reforms and liberalisation. These measures have been taken to promote increased integration of the Sri Lanka economy to the world economy as a step towards a rapid breakthrough in development. Policy reforms and facilities are aimed at improving the environment for the participation of foreign capital. It is being recognised that a strong export-oriented private sector-led development strategy is the answer to the country's major economic problems. Thus, the anticipation is that a larger share of the country's saving-investment gap will be filled by private capital inflows. Towards this end some major initiatives have been taken to promote capital market activities. Capital market activities increased with the growth of companies in the private sector and the privatisation of public sector enterprises. This process was further strengthened by the progress made in liberalising the external payments system and free market policies being implemented, the governor said.

The stock market has been an effective means of meeting the financial requirement of a growing private sector, which led to progressive expansion of the stock market and spectacular expansion in the demand for equity investments, as reflected in large over- subscriptions to capital issues made in the recent past. Foreign capital inflows will bring in much needed technological and management know-how which could bring positive spill over effects to the rest of the economy. Lastly, one of the main virtues of obtaining foreign capitals is the non-debt creating character which obviates the need for meeting service commitments involving balance of payments implications unless the enterprises concerned generate surpluses, he said.

## Minister Discusses Japanese Aid, 'Gift Package'

*BK2205114092 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 22 May 92*

[Text] Japan provides assistance of 2,020 million rupees for development activities in Sri Lanka annually. Of this amount, 1,500 million rupees are diverted for the development of agriculture. This was disclosed by Minister of Agricultural Development and Research R.M. Dharmadasa Banda when he addressed a gathering at a ceremony held at the Mahaweli Center in Colombo last afternoon. This ceremony was arranged to mark the handing over of four-wheel and two-wheel tractors valued at 52 million rupees by Japan to Sri Lanka. There are 46 four-wheel tractors and 99 two-wheel tractors in this gift package.